Crown Point

M. E. Church

1838–1938

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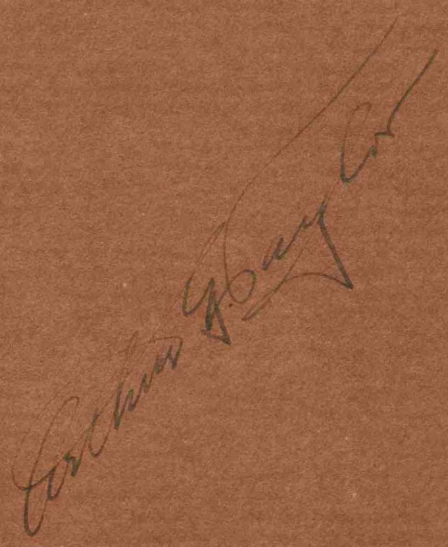

CENTENNIAL HISTORY

of the

Methodist Episcopal Church

CROWN POINT, INDIANA

1838 - 1938

Aldersgate Bi-Centennial Anniversary

1738 - 1938

Compiled and Edited by

MRS. JOSEPH E. BROWN

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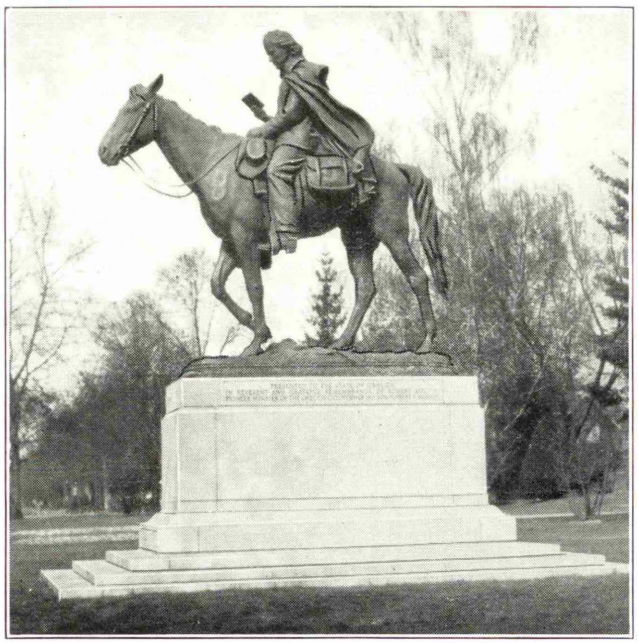

DEDICATION

We dedicate this Centennial Edition to the memory of Circuit Riders who tirelessly rode into the wilderness to carry the "Good News" of Jesus Christ to our pioneer forefathers.

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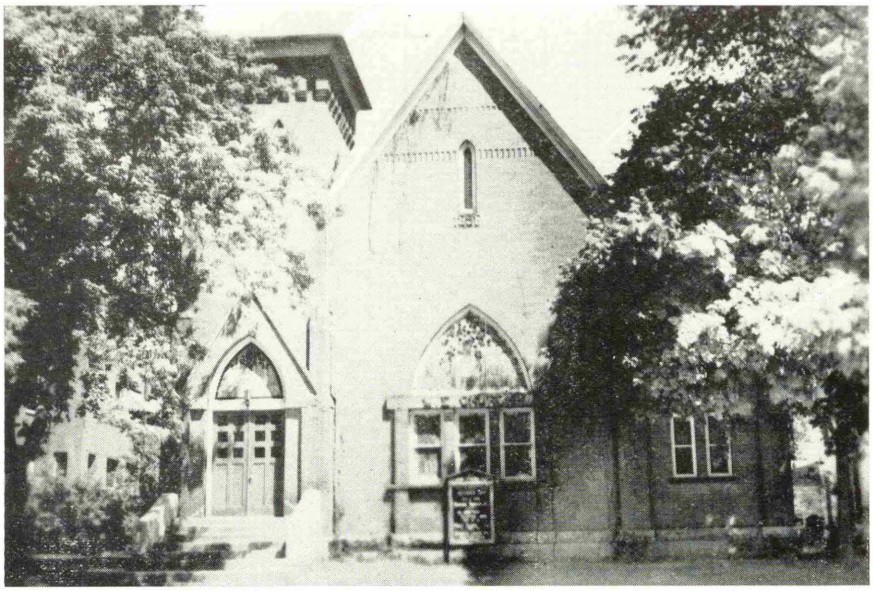
THE CHURCH AND PARSONAGE

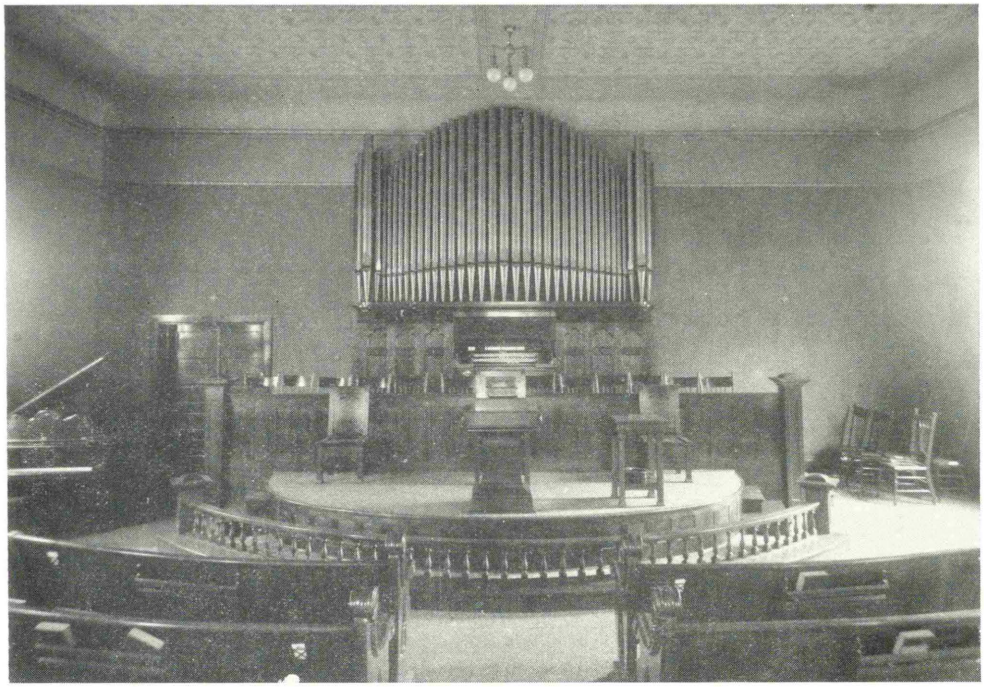
1860

PRESENT CHURCH



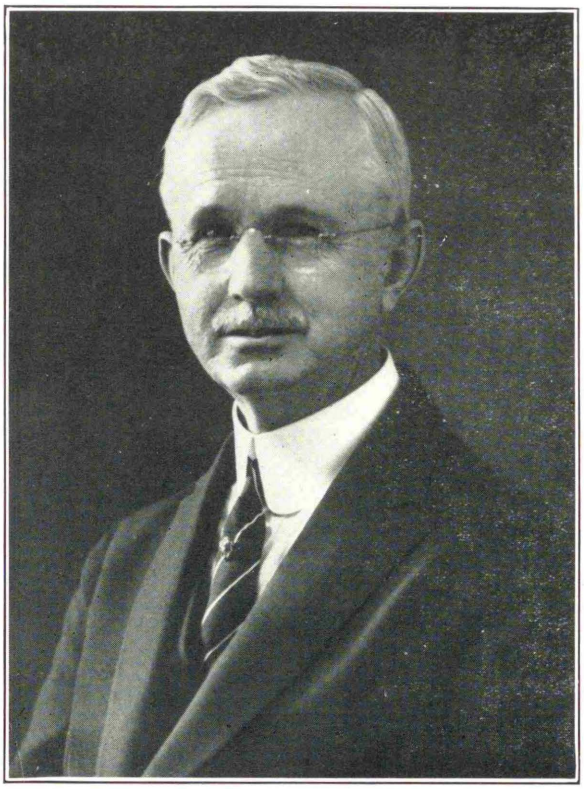
PRESENT PARSONAGE

SANCTUARY IN 1910



PRESENT SANCTUARY

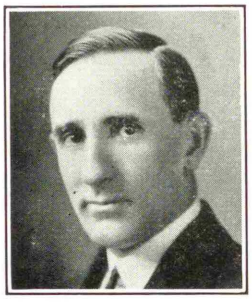
OUR BELOVED BISHOP



EDGAR BLAKE

OUR PRESENT
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

Our Own Superintendent



DR. ELMER JONES
South Bend District

DR. CLAUDE YOUNG
Lafayette
District

DR. J. E. PORTER
Greencastle
District

DR. T. L. STOVALL
Crawfordsville
District

IN OUR PARSONAGE TODAY

MERRILL B. McFALL

MARY BETH McFALL

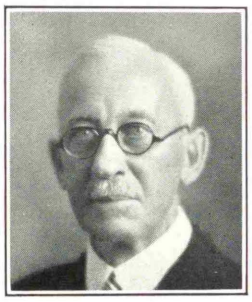
Word of Appreciation

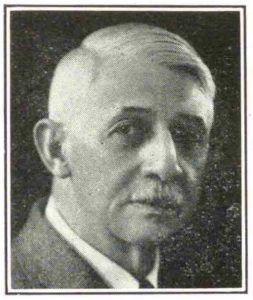
No person knows the time and labor which have gone into the successful completion of our Centennial Program. I want to take this opportunity to express my heart-felt appreciation to Mrs. Avis Brown, our Centennial General chairman for all the work she has done. I also want to express my deepest appreciation to Mr. Arthur Taylor for his unceasing labor in writing up our church history and gathering all the data from so many sources. To each and every chairman, to each and every member of the church who has participated in any way, to the children who have been so vital a part, to all who gave money and work to make our lovely sanctuary and our new basement recreation room possible, to the women of the church who have been so loyally allied with our total Centennial Program, to the men who have been willing to allow a young preacher to dream dreams and have been willing to make those dreams come true, for all this and for every other thing that has been a part of a most blessed and glorious year in our church history, your pastor is truly thankful. May God guide us in the years ahead that we may not fail to do His will in our planning and in our working.

Sincerely, your pastor,
MERRILL B. McFALL

FORMER DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

DR. W. E. McKENZIE
1920-1923

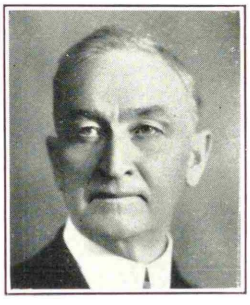




DR. PAUL C. CURNICK
1906-1910
Our Pastor 1922-1923

DR. BERT D. BECK
1924-1929

DR. C. H. TAYLOR
1929-1934

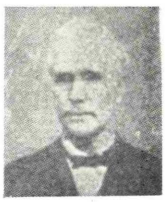


DR. M. H. APPLEBY
1912-1917
Our Pastor 1927

Dr. M. H. Appleby came to Crown Point as pastor in October, 1927. He died while our pastor in April, 1928.

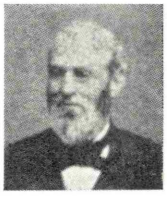
FORMER PASTORS

CONRAD S. BURGNER
1852



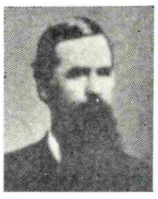
FRANCIS COX
1855
1882-1883

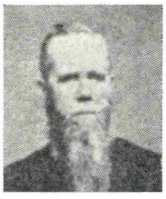
CHARLES B. HEATH
1856



JAMES W. GREEN
1858-1859

JAMES H. CLAYPOOL
1861





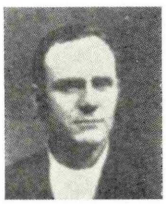
SAMUEL P. COLVIN
1865

FORMER PASTORS

RUSSELL D. UTTER
1872
1897-1899

OLIVER G. HASKELL
1877-1879

JAMES A. CLEARWATERS
1880



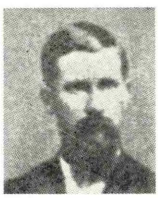
J. T. STAFFORD
1881

GEORGE R. STREETER
1884-1886

ISAAC DALE
1896

FORMER PASTORS

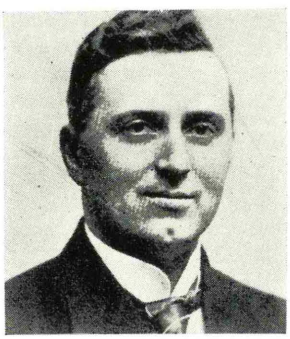
TIFFIN F. DRAKE
1900-1902



H. H. DUNLAVY
1906-1910

R. H. SANDERS
Supply

H. A. MERRILL
1887-1888



JOHN A. AYLING
1917-1922

Rev. John Ayling passed away in March, 1922, while pastor in Crown Point, Indiana.

FORMER PASTORS

1922-1923—DR. PAUL C. CURNICK

Picture on P. 12

DR. GEORGE B. JONES

1924-1926

1927—DR. MIDIAN H. APPLEBY

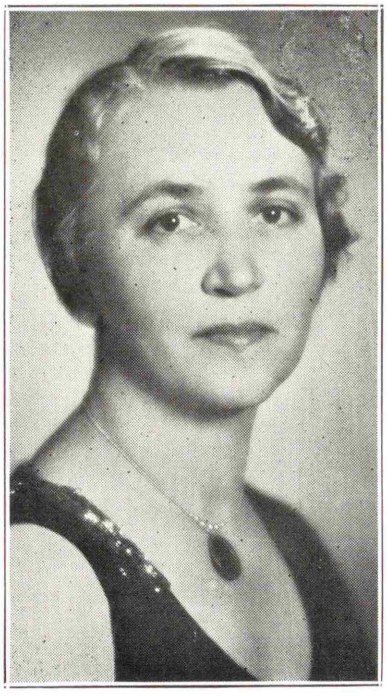
Picture on P. 12

1928—DR. EARL NAFTZGER

DR. EDWARD W. STRECKER

1929-1935

CENTENNIAL OFFICIALS



MRS. JOSEPH E. BROWN, (AVIS)
General Chairman

ARTHUR G. TAYLOR
Historian

CENTENNIAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE

GENERAL CHAIRMAN
Mrs. Joseph E. Brown

HISTORIAN
Mr. Arthur G. Taylor

INVITATIONS
Mrs. Harry Hisey

REGISTRATION
Mr. Edwin Knight

RECEPTION
Mr. Joseph E. Brown

TRANSPORTATION
Mr. David Stewart

PROGRAM OF FOUNDER'S DAY
Mrs. F. W. Kobelin

MUSIC
Mrs. Frances Hagen

EXHIBITS
Miss Josephine Meeker

DECORATIONS
Mrs. F. L. Busenburg

LUNCHEON
Mrs. Arthur Letsinger

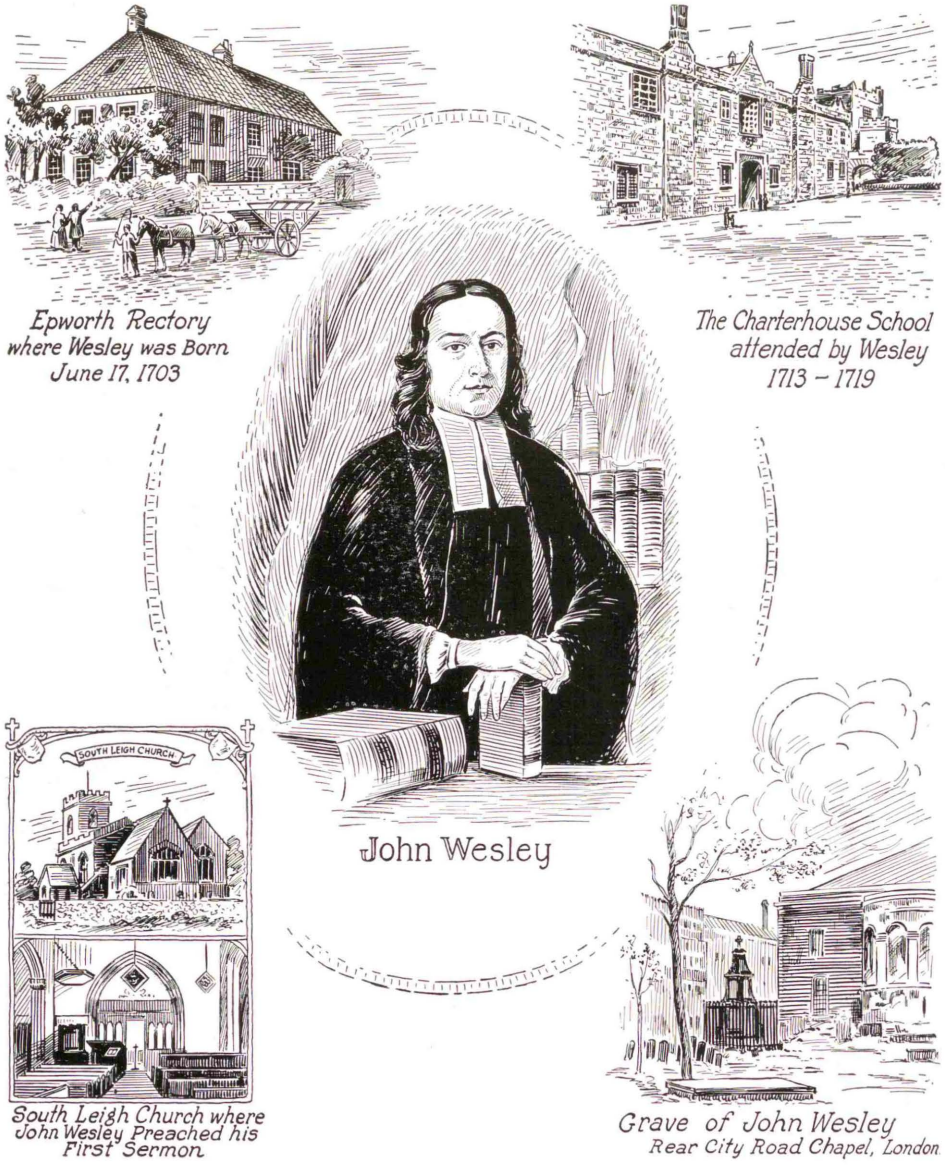
TYPED PROGRAMS
Miss Lela Lottes

CENTENNIAL BOOK SALE
Mr. Harold Clevenger

HOST HOMES
Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Grayson
The Fellowship Class and its president,
Mr. George Compton

OUR CHURCH HISTORY

By Arthur G. Taylor



Epworth Rectory
where Wesley was Born
June 17, 1703

The Charterhouse School
attended by Wesley
1713 – 1719

John Wesley

South Leigh Church where
John Wesley Preached his
First Sermon

Grave of John Wesley
Rear City Road Chapel, London

THE BEGINNINGS OF METHODISM

In writing the historical sketch of the Crown Point Methodist Episcopal Church to be read during the observance of the Centennial Sunday, a part of the celebration of the centennial of the first permanent settlement of Lake County, August 19, 1934, we said: "It is a happy coincidence that this year, 1934, not only marks the centennial of Crown Point, the centennial of the first permanent settlement in Lake County but also the sesqui-centennial of the Methodist Episcopal Church."

This year, 1938, we are privileged to celebrate not only the centennial of the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Crown Point but the bi-centennial of the "Aldersgate Experience" of John Wesley which so completely changed his life and through its continuing dominance made him one of the great religious leaders of the world.

Wesley's zeal for the salvation of souls, which at times, to his brethren in the Church of England, seemed to border upon fanaticism, caused the doors of most of the churches to be closed to his preaching. Undaunted, he held services in barns, halls and groves, in fact, anywhere that he could command an audience. He became the apostle to the common people of the British Empire. His preaching was so forceful and the response of the impoverished masses in Britain so spontaneous that Wesley is given the credit for the prevention, in England, of a bloody revolution, such as France experienced. *

Wesley, a presbyter or priest of the Church of England, never left the communion of the mother church, although he caused the Methodist Episcopal Church in America to be organized.

Methodist immigrants to the colonies in America, who were imbued with the same soul-stirring desire for the salvation of souls as John Wesley, formed Methodist societies in this country. When it became a certainty that the citizens of the revolting American colonies would establish a new national government, Wesley saw that this work could not continue in connection with the Church of England so he arranged for the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church in this country and the ordination of two bishops for the "infant" church by presbyter bishops of the Established Church of England. From that time on, the work here prospered. When the Northwest Territory was opened up for settlement, Methodist missionaries were among the first visitors in each community. Methodist classes were organized and arrangements made for regular preaching services.

In the 1934 historical sketch previously mentioned, we said: "The urge which caused men and women to leave comfortable homes, the conveniences, associations and benefits of civilization to take up life anew on the frontier where privation, loneliness and suffering too often prevailed, found a counterpart in the religious fervor and zeal which prompted the Methodist circuit rider in emulation of that apostle of Methodism, Bishop Francis Asbury, to endure great hardships in order that he might carry the gospel message to the neglected and oft-times poverty-stricken homes of the western territory.

"One writer says that there were few families, some members of which were not laid upon the bed of sickness and death. The sickness was so great at times that there were not enough well persons left to nurse the sick ones"**. The lack of modern sanitation, the use of water from streams and ponds, often contaminated; the crowded one-room log cabin swarms of mosquitoes and flies; all united to make the life of the pioneer settler and the pioneer pastor truly a burden.

* Lecky

** Smith, O. H., Indiana. Vol. 1, pp. 537 and 538

JOHN WESLEY

AT SIXTY YEARS OF AGE

CIRCUIT HISTORY OR MISSIONS

The Thomas Childers and the Solon Robinson families had settled in Lake County in October, 1834. Other "squatters" began to take up "claims" under the protection of the "Squatters Union" which was organized by Solon Robinson.

Rev. T. H. Ball, Baptist clergyman and pioneer historian of Lake County, makes mention of the fact that the "Deep River Mission" of the M. E. Church was founded in 1835; and that the pioneer missionary, Rev. Stephen Jones, reported that some small neighborhoods were found by him in Lake County during the year.* If the pioneer missionary found settlements in 1835, he probably held religious services in the county at that time, perhaps in the Bryant settlement** and in the E. W. Bryant home.

Solon Robinson states that the first preaching of the gospel in Lake County was that of the pioneer missionary, Rev. Jones, in 1836. The services were held at the home of Thomas Reed about two miles south of Crown Point. From the size of the house Mr. Robinson inferred that the congregation could not have been large. He further states that the minister "was sent by the presiding elder of the Northern Indiana Conference, who resided at South Bend."***. Mr. Robinson's article also mentions that the next year Lake County was included in the "Porter County Mission, under the charge of Rev. Beers."****.

Is it not probable that "Porter County Mission" and Deep River Mission" were synonymous titles of the same mission? Mrs. Susan Wood, early historian of the Crown Point M. E. Church, says that the first preaching was at the home of Mr. Reed, as stated heretofore, and that, at that time, Lake County was a part of

* Ball, T. H. Sunday Schools of Lake p. 9.

** This community later took the name of Pleasant Grove, being renamed for William Pleasant McCarty, who taught the school and often conducted church services for the Methodist congregation in the absence of the pastors.

*** History of Lake Co. Vol. x, p. 43.

**** Rev. Beers should not be confused with Rev. R. Beers, the Presbyterian pastor at Crown Point, 1874-1877.

the "Northwestern Mission." She is also authority for the statement that the missionary pastor rode a circuit of five hundred miles. He preached at his appointments about once in each six weeks.

As a reward for his labor, Rev. Jones was enabled to organize the first Methodist class in Lake County at the end of his first six months of ministry. This class comprising only six members, was organized in the home of E. W. Bryant, their leader.

From another source* we have the following: "as Porter and also Lake County had at this time settlers, the missionary field extended from LaPorte westward.

"Some of the statements, now to be given, rest on the authority of the Conference minutes, four bound volumes examined some years ago at the home of Rev. W. J. Forbes in Valparaiso, and some on his authority.

"In 1834 on the South Bend Circuit was stationed Stephen R. Ball. In that year no settlements, but few settlers in what became Lake County. Some in Porter County. In 1835 Deep River Mission was formed, Stephen Jones, missionary. In 1836 assigned to Deep River Mission, Jacob Colclazer."

In the year 1837 Hawley B. Beers had charge of the work. He was followed in 1838 by Jacob Colclazer. This was the year of the severe drought. Many of the settlers became discouraged and returned to their former homes or sought locations elsewhere. Sickness being so prevalent, few church services were held. In this year Bishop Robert R. Roberts, conducted the first quarterly meeting at the home of William W. Payne at Center Prairie, about two miles southwest of Crown Point. The Payne home was a place for regular Methodist preaching. Mr. Payne was class leader and J. Foley** was superintendent of the Sunday School.

Late in 1838, Rev. Isaac Stagg became a minister on the circuit and the Methodist Episcopal Church in Crown Point was organized.*** As his name does not appear in the appointments of the conference for that year it is probable that he was a supply, an assistant to the minister on the circuit.

Crown Point, at that time was an extremely small community. Liverpool had been recently selected as the "County Seat". The panic of 1837 was being severely felt by the inhabitants of the frontier village. Money was so scarce that produce and merchandise had to be transferred by barter and exchange. Cattle and hogs were selling at 2½c per pound. Oats sold as low as six cents per bushel and eggs at three cents per dozen. The future, at that time, did not seem to be full of promise.

Another historian gives a later date, 1843, for the organization.**** His date is the same as that of the organization of the Crown Point M. E. Sunday School, which he probably construed as the organization date of the church.

The year following the organization of the church, 1839, the new church was supplied by Robert Hyde, a local preacher residing at Pleasant Grove. His pastorate was marked by a great revival and many were added to the membership of the church. After concluding this pastorate, he moved to Crown Point where he was a loyal worker for many years. He departed this life in 1883 in the city of Chicago.

At the 1843 meeting heretofore mentioned, Major Allman, Jacob Mendenhall, John Reed, E. W. Bryant***** and John Kitchell were elected as trustees. As the early church organization was looking forward to the time when it could take over the lot, which Solon Robinson was prepared to donate to them for the erection of their church building, it was necessary to add a board of trustees to the personnel of the official members of the church.

Continuing the record as made by Mrs. Wood, we have the following ministers listed as supplying the new church organization

* Ball, T. H. Northwestern Indiana. p. 181 and 182.

** The Foley for whom Foley Mill Pond and Foley Creek were named.

*** Ball, T. H. Lake County 1884. p. 192.

**** Goodspeed, Porter and Lake. p. 501.

***** E. W. Bryant should not be confused with Elias Briant (Bryant). E. W. Bryant's full name was Eliphalet Wayne Bryant. Both settled in Pleasant Grove community in 1835. Elias Bryant was an active member in the early Presbyterian church of Crown Point.

from the years 1839 to 1843; Rev. [Martin R.?] Green; _____ Wheeler; [Wade?] Posey; [William J.?] Forbes; and D. Crumpacker.*

In the year 1843 Major Allman** came to Crown Point from Michigan. A devout and enthusiastic Methodist, he took over the work as a local preacher. His forceful preaching was followed by great revivals in Crown Point and other points on the circuit in 1843. Rev. Cozad was the pastor in charge of the circuit which comprised Lake County. In 1853 the county was divided into two circuits; Rev. R. B. Young, *** after one year's service, took up his residence in Crown Point and became a valued member of the congregation. He lived here until his death in 1880. The Crown Point circuit, at the time of division, comprised Deer Creek, Prairie View, and Centerville (now Merrillville). The other circuit, known as the Lowell circuit, included Pleasant Grove, Orchard Grove, West Creek, Plum Grove, and Creston (then known as Cedar Lake), with Rev. Dunham as pastor.

WEST CREEK

The log houses which served as temporary meeting places for the pioneer Methodists in the mission circuit were too small to accomodate the growing congregation. In 1843 the Methodists at West Creek erected the first Protestant church building in Lake county in what was known as the Hayden-Hathaway settlement. In 1869 the present frame building was erected. Prominent workers in this church have been: Adam Hamilton, Sr., known as 'Father' Hamilton, Amaziah Gear, Aaron Fisher, Henry Parsons, Levi Tarr, Bethuel Hathaway, Hugh Moore, Charles T. Bailey, George Bailey, Charles Belshaw, and Henry Hathaway. The West Creek church has been abandoned and most of the members have transferred to Lowell. Charles Belshaw is now an official member of our church.

HICKORY POINT

The Methodists at Hickory Point, northeast of Leroy on the county line, erected a church building in 1844. The class at Hickory Point was, at that time, the largest in the county.

PLEASANT GROVE

A Methodist church building was also erected at Pleasant Grove, but we have been unable to ascertain the date, although it must have been in the '40's.**** Active members in this congregation were the ones heretofore mentioned, Ephraim Cleveland; his son, ***** Timothy Cleveland; Perry Jones; Adam Hamilton, Jr.; and C. Templeton. To this group should be added the name of Rev. Geo. W. Taylor ****** who located at Pleasant Grove in 1845, where he resided until he moved to Valparaiso, in 1849, dying there in the same year. He served as local preacher and not only preached at Pleasant Grove, but assisted the pastor at various preaching places on the circuit. He was the father of Mrs. Susan G. Wood, a pioneer member of our local church. The work at Pleasant Grove was discontinued in 1870.

* Mrs. Susan G. Wood, the historian spells the latter name "Crumbacker" and the names Posey and Forbes without the letter "e". She further states that Mr. Crumpbacker settled in Crown Point in 1848. He was a great help to his church. His grave is in Crown Point Cemetery.

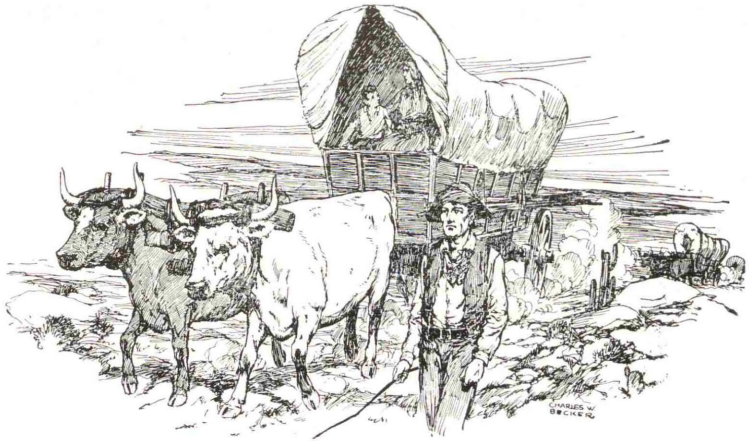
** Many descendants of Major Allman live in Crown Point today and are active in our community life.

*** Mrs. Susan G. Wood. Ball, T. H. Lake County 1884.

**** In Lake County, 1884, T. H. Ball, p. 194. It is stated that the Pleasant Grove church was built at Sanger's Corners in 1852 or 1853. Was this the first or second church?

***** Timothy Cleveland later moved to Crown Point, took up the practice of law, served as justice of the peace, and became an active official of the Crown Point M. E. Church.

****** It is a strange coincidence that the father of the writer, George W. Taylor of Creston (he lived in Crown Point from 1896-1899 and held membership in our church) also bore the same name. To the writer's knowledge, there was no family relationship.



WESTWARD HO!

SOUTH EAST GROVE

Another early day preaching place for the Methodists was South East Grove. The inhabitants of this community included the Morris, Parkinson, Smith, Servis, Flint, Ketcham, Thompson, Brown,* Wallace, Crawford. Bray, Fisher, Cochran, Durland, Kingsbury, and Post families. Some of these were Methodist and others were Presbyterian. Meetings were held in the Orlando Servis cabin. Mr. Servis, who was a Methodist, organized a Sunday School about 1839. Robert Thompson, a Methodist local preacher residing in the community, conducted the church services.**

CRESTON (or Cedar Lake)

In 1876, during the pastorate of Rev. Baker*** upon the Lowell circuit, a church building was erected at Creston (then known as Cedar Lake). This community was made up of pioneer families who had originally settled in the West Point community on the North and East side of Cedar Lake.

The first settlers, the Balls, Warriners, Cutlers, Thompsons, Taylors. Edgertons, Stillsons, and Dilles, favored the Baptist and Congregationalist churches. The family of Judge Benjamin McCarty was the only Methodist family. After the removal of the community to its new location in the vicinity of the present village of Creston, the Scritchfields, Vinnedges and Loves took up their residence in the neighborhood. The last named families were Methodists.

A series of revival meetings in the winters of the years, 1872, 1873, and 1874, increased the membership of the Methodist class to such an extent that all doubt as to the wisdom of erecting a church building was removed.

In 1876 the community became definitely Methodist, through the unification of those three church groups under Methodist leadership, and the church building was erected. The first board of trustees consisted of Antone H. Carstens, Amos P. Thompson, Obadiah G. Taylor, III, Samuel A. Love, Sr., and Robert Garrison. Descendants of all the foregoing men are or have been in our Crown Point congregation, if not in the church membership****

* Joseph E. Brown, a Crown Point lawyer, is an active member of the local Methodist church, holding several official positions, and is a descendant of the pioneer Brown and Crawford families of South East Grove.

** The writer has in his possession a letter from Robert Wilhelm Wilde of Los Angeles, California, in which he writes that he has documents in his possession which certify that Robert Thompson, his grandfather, was licensed to preach at Deep River, Indiana, September 7, 1839, signed by Aaron Wood, presiding elder. In the next year, the quarterly meeting, at which his license was renewed, met at Kankakee, Illinois, or at some community in Lake County on the Kankakee River which may have been known as Kankakee community.

*** Rev. F. D. Baker was a brother of Mrs. David Vinnedge.

**** In our Epworth League at present are five young people who are descendants of the above named trustees. They are Miss Velda Seramur who is descended from Anton H. Carstens; Richard (Dick) Hill, who is descended from Amos P. Thompson; Geo. Ross and Elizabeth Taylor and Margaret Stillson, who are descendants of Obadiah G. Taylor, III.

CEDAR LAKE (GERMAN)

While the English-speaking Methodists had been establishing churches in the county, their German-speaking brethren had not been idle. A group of German immigrants settled in Hanover and West Creek townships during the period from 1845 to 1870. Many of these were Methodists and a church organization was soon formed. In 1853 they erected the Cedar Lake German Methodist Episcopal Church building on what is now U. S. Highway No. 41 near the south end of Hanover Township. Since many of the members later removed to Iowa and the continuance of services in the German language not being necessary, the church has been abandoned and the members have transferred to other nearby churches. Some of the pioneer families in the German M. E. church bore the names of Krinbill, Beckley, Einspahr, Fisher, Sautter, Piepho, Mandernach, and Musbach Our local church has had and now has a number of descendants of these devoted Christians in its membership.

DEER CREEK AND PRAIRIE VIEW

Deer Creek and Prairie View were both preaching appointments on the Crown Point circuit. The work at Deer Creek had been in continuance for many years as had that at Prairie View. A church building was erected at Deer Creek in 1880. The congregations at both places have been disbanded and many of the members have transferred to the Crown Point church. A list of the early members of these two points will be found elsewhere in this article.

MERRILLVILLE

The Merrillville organization which had formerly been a preaching appointment on the Crown Point circuit was detached and made a part of that of the new church in Hobart in 1866. A substantial church building was erected in 1874. This church is still doing effective work in spreading the Gospel tidings.

Some of the Merrillville pioneer Methodist families bore the family names of Merrill, Pinnell, Knoll, Nicholson, Hyde, Saxton, Zuvers, Boyd, Banks, Iddings, Burge, Demmon, Glazier, Pierce, and Barton.

LOWELL

A Methodist Episcopal Church building was erected at Lowell during the year 1870. The church at Pleasant Grove was abandoned and many of the members transferred to Lowell. Among the early members of the Lowell congregation, we find the family names of Jones, Clark, Thorn, Fuller, Dwyer, Gragg, Hill, Bacon, Davis, Dickinson, Brannon, Nichols, Sanger, Hoshaw, and Foster.

ORCHARD GROVE

From early times, as stated before, Orchard Grove had been a community in which Methodist services were held. The names, Clark, Ebert, Norton, Kenney, Ragon, Handley, Wallace, and Spaulding, were borne by early workers in this church organization. The Orchard Grove membership was transferred to Lowell about twenty-five years ago.

SOLON ROBINSON

LEROY

We do not have any record of the first Methodist services conducted in the LeRoy neighborhood. However, there seems to have been a group of earnest Christians in this community from early times. The Methodists and United Presbyterians seemed to predominate with approximately the same numerical strength.

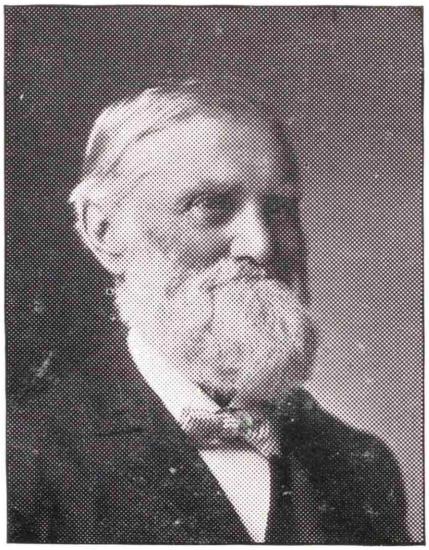
Among the pioneer Methodists of this community were the following: Samuel Love, Sr., Wm. Turner, Mrs. Wm. Turner, Miss Mary Boyd, James Boyd, Thomas Stonex, and S. L. Beach.

A church building was erected in 1833. Several years ago the United Presbyterian congregation disbanded, many of them joining the Methodist organization. Among the members coming to us from the Leroy M. E. Church have been the following official members of our church in the past and present: Mr. and Mrs. Samuel A. Love, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Spencer L. Beach, Mr. and Mrs. David Stewart, and Mrs. Maude Cottingham.

CROWN POINT GERMAN METHODIST

In 1874, the German-speaking Methodists in Crown Point and vicinity erected a church building on Sherman Street in this city. This work prospered for a number of years. Some of the families identified with this church were those bearing the surnames of Peters, Knoedler, Bitzer, Bach, Schroeder, and Kuehl. This membership has disbanded and many have found a church home in our church and the Merrillville M. E. Church. The Evangelical Association, virtually Methodist in doctrine and government, erected a church edifice in the same year. Services in this church were conducted in the German language. With the passing of the older members of the flock, there was no longer a need for the use of the German language, and this church organization likewise disbanded and many of the members transferred to our church. * **.

EARLY RECORDS



GEORGE E. KRINBILL

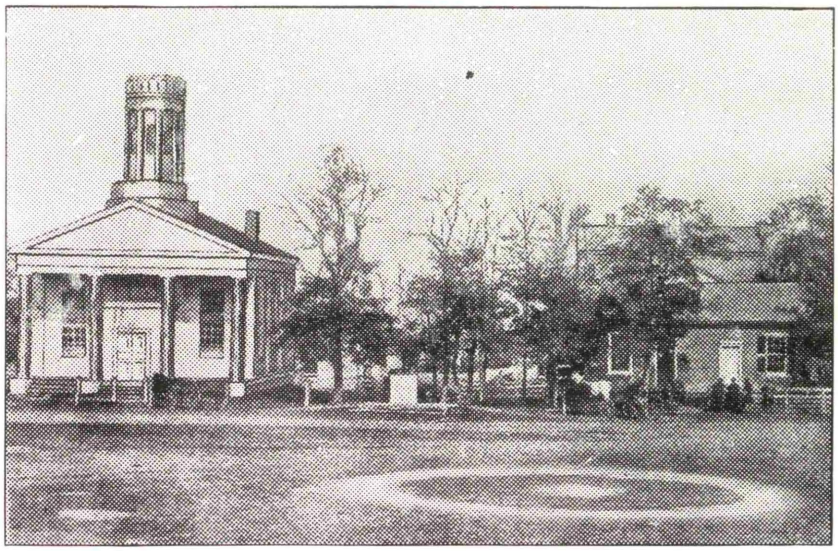
The early records of our church were destroyed by fire in 1876. We have, however, the names of the members composing Class No. 1 at Crown Point; Class No. 2 at Prairie View; and Class No. 3 at Deer Creek. These lists should be of interest to the members of the Crown Point M. E. Church, as they contain the names of parents and grandparents of many of our members. For that reason we are including them in this record. The date for these lists is about 1870.

CLASS NO. 1 AT CROWN POINT:

George Krinbill, leader
C. E. Allman
Sarah M. Allman
Libbie Allman
Emma Beattie
Judson Beattie
Catherine E. Beattie
L. G. Bedell
Charles E. Bacon
Timothy Cleveland
William E. Crowell

* T. H. Ball, The Lake of the Red Cedars, p. 12 etc. seq.

** The families of Matthew Houk, John Houk, Joseph Ade, and C. Weiss were active in this church. Misses Ida and Dean Weiss and Mrs. Florence Houk Rushton of our official board came from this church, as did Mrs. Minnie Houk Westphal, the mother of our official members, Walter, Russell and Clifford Westphal. Members from the German M. E. Church were: Mrs. Elizabeth Schroeder, Mrs. Anna Kitchell, Mrs. John Claussen, Mrs. Charles McWayne.



THE OLD COURT HOUSE IN 1860

Elizabeth Crowell
Cyrus Chapman
Jane Chapman
Christina Chapman
Malissa Clinghan
Amelia Cade
Catherine Colby
Charlotte Chapman
Sarah Ditmar
Jeremiah Evans
Ellen Evans
Reuben Fancher
Mary Fancher
Anna L. Colby
Frederick Fessenden
Sarah Fessenden
Jacob Houk
Caroline Houk
Diantha Higgins
William Hartupee
Rosalinda Holton
Mary Harper
Malissa Haynes
W. T. Horine
Anna Krinbill
Andrew Krinbill
Barbara Krinbill
Carrie Krinbill
Julia Krinbill
John Keeney
Harriett Keeney
Samuel A. Love, Sr.
Ellen Love

Margaret Myres
Elizabeth McWilliams
Eva Krinbill
Ellen McWilliams
W. S. McGlashon
Minerva Norton
David Phelps [Darius?]
Rachael Phelps
Arona Phelps
Malinda Simmons
Mary Shoup
Jane Sherman
Loe R. Thomas
Sylvanus Vanwinkle
Harriet Vanwinkle
Susan Wood
Cordelia Wood
States G. Williams
Elizabeth Williams
Arabella Williams
R. B. Young
Eliza Young
R. C. Young
Louisa Young
Eliza H. Stolz
W. R. Marston
Benj. F. Shelley
Hattie Shelley
Mary Newson [?]
Volney Garrett
Rebecca Garrett
Eliza A. Marston
Peter H. Saylor

Emma Saylor
Henry P. Swartz
Mary Swartz
Mrs. John Chapman
Olive Blakeman
S. C. Everton
Lucretia Taylor
John Fehlman
Elizabeth Fehlman
Edwin A. Schell
J. Garrett
John Colby
John O. Wilkins
Albert D. Chapman
G. E. Eastman
A. A. Ingrim
M. H. Ingrim
Mary A. Meeker
James E. Swartz
Mrs. Marvin Nash
Sylvia Lathrop
Helen Granger
Maggie Taylor
Eliza Wise
Florence D. Pratt
Mrs. J. M. Bessey
Julia Krinbill

CLASS NO 2, AT PRAIRIE VIEW:

Salathiel Chapman, leader.
Ellen Chapman
George Chapman
Robert Chapman
Mary Chapman
Chloe Chapman
William Beattie
Rebecca Beattie
Mary J. Beattie
Margaret Beattie
John Boyle
Mary Derland
Acal Everetts
George Everetts
Milo Everetts
Rosina Everetts
Samantha Everetts
Edith Gordon
Thomas Goodman
Phoebe Goodman
John Jones
Janette Jones
Emma Jones
Albert Kilborne
Francis Kilborne
Henrietta Bibler
Lucretia Perry
Isabella Perry
Phoebe Perry
David Pringle
William Pringle
Conrad Rose
Anna Rose
David Rose
Mary Rose
Martha Rose
Alice Rose
Lovina Rose
Let Rose
William Rose
Elizabeth Varney
Charles Kilborn
N. B. Meeker
O. P. Rose
Elizabeth Chapman
Nathan Varney
Horace Edgerton
Edwin Gordon
Oscar Williams
George Johnston
Matilda Beattie
Mary A. Evenes [Evans?]
John J. Beattie
Ladocia Everetts
Mary A. Meeker
Sarah McKay
P. E. Sneer
J. A. Meeker
Theressa Meeker
Harriet Chapman
Geo. Averil

CLASS NO. 3 AT DEER CREEK:

Orson Bacon, leader.
Melissa Bacon
Jas. S. Sanders
Mary Sanders
James Burge
Ann Burge
John Burge
Orrin P. Burge
Phoebe Burge
Anthony Diddie
Elizabeth Diddie
Amanda Diddie
David Dixson
Mary Dixson
Susan Deeter
Harriet Burge
Lemiah Shaw
Emely Shaw
James D. Philips
Amanda Philips
Lewis Hipsley
Eliza Hipsley
John Mikles, Sr.
Elizabeth Mikles
John Mikles, Jr.
Mary Mikles
Goodsel B. Handley
Mary A. Handley

Rebecca Handley
Lucy Blakeman
Stephen Blakeman
Martha Atwell
Henry Wise
Catherine Wise
George Simms
Marietta Simms
Mathew Wyeth
Fanny Wyeth
Matilda Wyeth
Catherine Williams
Wm. Campbell
Flenssa Campbell [Theressa?]
Charlotte Culver
Ralph Berry
Joseph Philips
Mariah Diddie
Albert Bacon
George Wise
Elizabeth Berry
Maria Bacon
Henry Geistfield
Emma Patton
Euthema Patton
Christina West
Sarah Smith
Jesse Conner
Malissa V. Shaw
Arvetta Berry
Jasper Burge
Arunah Bacon
Jesse M. Culverson
Silas Fleming
Sarah Fleming

James Patton
James Bacon
Philip Teeple
Lora Teeple
Emma Deeter
Sarah A. Strong
Mary A. West [Wert?]
Lizzie Gibbs
James Shaw
John Deeter
George A. Williams
Bennie Fleming
Philip J. West [Wert?]
Ida Williams
Fannie Wyeth
Amanda Wyeth
Joseph Patton
Ann E. Patton
Charlotte Booth
Amanda Wise
Gustave Kuhl [Kuehl?]
Sophia Gurnsey
Josephine Harper
G. W. Diddie
Milo Bacon
John Smith
James Coffie [Coffey?]
Martha Coffie [Coffey?]
Elizabeth McClure
Mary A. Patton
Electa Michael
Nicholas Knopf
Susan Knopf
Charles Sage

ORGANIZATIONS OF THE LOCAL CHURCH

SUNDAY SCHOOL

MISS JOSEPHINE MEEKER

An effective department of our church work in Lake County from the first has been the Sunday School. The first Sunday school work at Crown Point was carried on as a union school of the Baptist, Presbyterian, and Methodist churches. Rev. Major Allman, heretofore mentioned, having removed to Crown Point and taking an active part in church activities, decided that it would be better for the Methodist church to have its own Sunday School. In carrying out this idea he was assisted by Silas Hathaway. At that time, 1843, the village of Crown Point contained about 30 families, consequently, the Sunday school attendance could not have been large.

Rev. Mr. Allman was probably the first superintendent and undoubtedly continued as superintendent for a number of years. The next superintendent, of whom we have any record, was Samuel Cade, elected in 1849, and following in rotation; Dr. Sylvester Green; Martin Wood; the different pastors then for a time succeeding; Mrs. Susan G. Wood, 1857; Upthegrove, about 1858; George Krimbill*, 1859-1867; Andrew Krimbill; S. P. Van Winkle, 1876; Jacob Houk, 1877; W. T. Horine, 1878-1879; Mrs. J. A. Clearwaters, 1880; Jacob Houk, 1881-1884; Mrs. Susan G. Wood, 1886; Dr. J. C. Gibbs, 1889-1890. Since then the superintendents have been Prof. W. B. Allison, at that time supt. of schools; Dr. J .D. Ebright; Frank Houk, 1897-1915; Samuel A. Love, Jr., 1916-1922; Earle Clark, 1923-1924; and Joseph E. Brown, 1924 to the present time. This list; however, is probably not complete.

In commenting upon the M. E. Sunday school T. H. Ball, the historian and active county Sunday school worker says: **

"The names of the teachers can not all be given, but the following have been obtained for this record. First of all is the name of Mrs.

* The name "Krimbill" was often written "Krinbill".

** Ball, T. H. Sunday Schools of Lake, pp. 70, 71.

S. G. Wood, * a daughter of Rev. George W. Taylor, of Pleasant Grove, married to Martin Wood in August of 1849, and entering upon home, church, and other duties in Crown Point in 1855.

"Commencing her work as a Sunday-school teacher before her marriage, as many others do and have done, she (Mrs. S. G. Wood) has continued it till the present time, a teacher for forty-three years. As might well be supposed, she has been active also in other kindred work. Other teachers are: Mrs. R. Fancher, a superintendent and teacher from 1860 for about twelve years [at Prairie View church on this circuit and at Crown Point], and for eighteen years kept out of the school by bodily afflictions; J. Houk, Mrs. Horine, Mr. and Mrs. Upthegrove, Mrs. Griggs, Miss Cordelia Wood, now Mrs. Judge Herrick, of Kansas; Miss Addie Meeker, now Mrs. Julius Rockwell, for three years teacher of the infant class; Miss Mattie Dresser, now Mrs. Dr. J. C. Gibbs, teacher for five or six years; Mrs. Samuel Witherell, Miss Ann M. Millikan, George Krinbill, Jr.; Miss Julia Krinbill, Miss Lily Krinbill, T. A. Muzzall, Arthur Griggs, Benton Wood, and Miss Ada Griggs. There have been other teachers for a longer or shorter time in this school.

"For several years George Krinbill, Jr., now teacher of vocal music in the Public School at Red Wing, Minnesota, was chorister in this school.

"T. A. Muzzall has done not a little for several years in building up the material interests of the school. He has been secretary, treasurer, a leading singer, as well as teacher, and has put his prompt, active business habits into the life of the school.

"Professor O. J. Andrews, principal for some years of the Crown Point public school, was an active member of this Sunday school.

"In numbers this school has been for many years one of the large schools of the county."

In Sunday Schools of Lake p. 153 we find the membership roll of our Sunday school for the year 1890. This was nearly fifty years ago and should merit a place in this centennial booklet.

Ella Warner
Ida Westphal
Alta Meeker
Mabel Wilder
Anna Fisher
Edith Maxwell
Lilly Krinbill
Allie Houk
Lizzie Pratt
Mrs. Allison
Belle Handley
Mary Muzzall
Sabra Babbitt
Josie Pratt
Ola Barton
Allie Fuller
Ida Lisbern [Lesperance?]
Richard Scoates
Minnie Sholtz
Ruby Flemming
Hazel Sanders
Delia Conway
Lizzie Sage
Hans Cook
Bessie Rosenbauer
Jennie Westphal
Edna Maynard
Edith Fuller
Rae Rockwell
Blanche Salisbury
Rae Lathrop
Ora Farley

Floy Vincent
Marie Ames
Georgia Crawford
Ruth Fessenden
Louera Steeb
Mattie Hall
Edith Steeb
Lois Coffin
Lizzie Cook
Freddie Cook
Winnie Hack
Bessie Hildreth
Marguerite Allison
Bessie Scoates
Gertie Fisher
Ernest Pierce
Charlie Westphal
Ernest Hall
Willis Wood
Clarence Flemming
Willis Ainsworth
Harry Houk
Frank Beck
Willie Stolz
Wells Ainsworth
Georgie Fry
Dan Scoates
Wesley Peters
Ballard Hale
Frank Muzzall
George Perleywitz
Emil Blickhaan
Robert Henry

* History of Lake County, Vol. XI, p. 22, contains a biographical sketch by her daughter.

Charles Wise
George Peters
William Peters
Earl Caswell
John Melcher
Claude Roller
Ward Marble
Harry Hayward
Eugene Cooper
Toots Moriarity
Johnnie Letterer
Harry Hart
Carson Ross
Burr Wheeler
Johnnie Houk
Harry Ross
Willie Tuttle
Roy Klinefelter
John Kenny
Henry Fredrick
Melvin Ross
Arthur Brown
Willie Hagedorn
Nina Hayward
Maud Smith
Anna Westphal
Martha Jones
Allie Fessenden
Ula Hall
Jennie Case
Mable Stolz
Bessie Roller
Hannah Keitzman
Phoebe Ainsworth
Ida Fredrick
May Melcher
Hannah Diddie
Grace Ross
Frank Houk
John Wise
Henry Wise
Walter Atwell
Albert Kilborn
Archie Farley
A. M. Markle
W. A. Scheddell
E. J. Muzzall
T. A. Muzzall
Jos. Patton
W. D. Jones
F. M. Armstrong
Olive Jones
Jennie Patton
May Fancher
May Lathrop
Clara Houk
Flora Houk
Cleo Wolf
Emma Handley
Bessie Harmon
Pearl Mallery

Lilly Fredrick
Lydia Peters
Juno Henderson
Essie Handley
Emily Hayward
Lulu Baker
Nellie Luther
Lilly Furneld
Flora Wood
Nettie Teeple
Della Flemming
Grace Fancher
Hattie Kenny
Daisy Phelps
Myrtle Phelps
Anna Imhoff
Tracy Koupal
Clara Sherman
Mamie Melcher
Myrtie Fellman
Allie Merrill
Ruth Marble
Mamie Swartz
Della Kilborn
May Barton
Kittie Swartz
Tillie Griesel
Eva Wolf
May Wolf
Mertie Westphal
Ruth Lathrop
Julia Maynard
Hattie Hagerdorn
Luella Edgerton
Mertie Crowell
Frankie Wheaton
Maggie Dietel
Bessie Rose
Edna Ames
Ida Maynard
Tillie Letterer
Mary Steeb
Bertha Keitzman
Mary Vincent
Floy Coffin
Anna Wheeler
Effie Crawford
Edith Rudolph
Amy Salisbury
May Kenny
Neva Hayward
Alice Wise
Lilly Goff
Jennie Simon
Maggie Melcher
Pearl Wheaton
Clara Conway
Ada Edgerton
Barbara Clement
Alvira Brown
Birdie Smith
Dr. J. C. Gibbs, Supt.

It is not an easy matter to select names of the Sunday school workers of the present time who deserve especial mention. I think that there is one person among this group, however, who does deserve special mention, Miss Josephine Meeker, who has served for fifty years as a teacher in our Sunday School Probably three generations, in some instances, may have been under her tutelage.

Others still living, who have served for fifteen years or more during this same period are the following, Joseph E. Brown, Mrs. Avis Brown, Miss Dean Weiss, Mrs. Julia Kobelin, Edwin F. Knight, W. Vincent Youkey, Mrs. May Crowell, Miss Ruby McCarty, Mrs. Allie Hisey, Mrs. Flossie Frame, Arthur B. Frame.

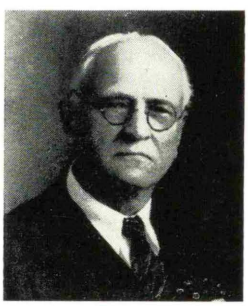
The 1938 list of officers of the Sunday school are: Superintendent, Joseph E. Brown; Assistant Superintendent, Edwin F. Knight; Secretary, Miss Lola Tennant; Librarian, Junior Belanger; and Treasurer, Miss Dorothea Rushton.

The teachers in the adult department are: Mrs. Flossie Frame, F. L. Busenburg, and Cecil Erwin; in the young people's department, the teachers are: Mrs. Avis Brown, Mrs. Katherine Roberts, Edwin F. Knight, and Vernie Bowen. The superintendent of the junior department is Miss Lela Lottes, and the teachers are: John Baker, Alton Cochrane, Harold Clevenger, Miss Lela Lottes, Miss Wilma Adank, and Mrs. Joyce Taylor. The primary department has Miss Josephine Meeker as superintendent, and Miss Faith Lottes as assistant superintendent. The teachers in this department are: Mrs. Cleo Evans, Mrs. M. M. Burtner, Miss Dean Weiss, Miss Ruby McCarty, Miss Faith Lottes, and Mrs. Myrtle Fields. This group of teachers and officers of the Sunday school, together with the pastor, compose the Sunday School Council, of which Mrs. Flossie Frame is secretary.

In 1931 Professor W. J. Brittan organized our Sunday School orchestra. The following were faithful and loyal members of this flourishing organization; Roland Lisius, Robert Youkey, Margaret Brittan, Roy Brittan, Lela Lottes, Warren Brown, Bryant Brown, Wilford Brown, Crowell Knight, Kenneth Knight, Bernard Pressler, Paul Pressler, Warren Houk, Lucille Marlatt, Junior Zajicek, June Thompson, and Jeanette Condon. This orchestra was discontinued when we changed the Morning Worship service to ten o'clock and so eliminated the opening exercises of the Church School.

For the past few years our Church School has been using young people for the positions of secretary and treasurer. The first secretary under this new plan was Irene Enterline Stuhlmacher. She was followed by her sister, Doris Enterline Petersen. Then, in order came the following, Wilford Brown, Warren Brown, and Lola Tennant. The first treasurer under this new plan was Crowell Knight. At present, our treasurer is Dorothea Rushton.

EPWORTH LEAGUE



DR. EDWIN SCHELL

In the year 1894, the young people of the church were organized into a chapter of our national young people's church society known as the Epworth League. This organization of young people has been quite active for almost fifty years. A devotional meeting is held each Sunday evening. They have sponsored lectures, musicales, and forums, in cultural entertainment. A number of years ago they assumed the support of a native student in India. This young young man later went to the Fiji Islands as a missionary under the auspices of the Crown Point Epworth League.

Each summer our young people make a great pilgrimage to Battle Ground, the summer institute grounds of our Northwest Indiana Conference. For many years the girls of Mrs. F. L. Busenburg's class were the main ones who went,

going with their teacher for the High School Week. Now we send Junior and Intermediates for one week, High School youth for another week, and the Older Youth for another week. For the past two years we have had between fifty and sixty young people at Battle Ground. This is made possible by the generous gifts of money and food which the church so willingly gives to the project. Mrs. Joseph E. Brown and Mrs. Arthur Frame have served as chaperones. Miss Lela Lottes supervises the Junior girls and Mr. Clevenger aids with the Junior boys. Battle Ground has done much for our church. At present the Epworth League is purchasing a cottage at Battle Ground.

In the early days of the Crown Point chapter, added impetus was given to the work here due to the knowledge that Rev. Edwin A. Schell, the General Secretary of the Epworth League held his membership in the local church.

Our Epworth Leaguers brought great honors to themselves and our church in the summer of 1936 when they won the Northwest Indiana Conference Drama Contest at Battle Ground. "Ba Thane" was the play they presented. It was a missionary play and one which portrayed vividly the situation in a small Burmese missionary post during the last depression. Mrs. Avis Brown was the director of the play. Miss Alys Frame was dramatics chairman of the Epworth League. The cast was made up of the following: Jack Ross as Ba Thane, Wilma Frame, his sister, Becky Wilson, Marjorie Stewart, Walt Wilson, Crowell Knight, and Richard Joyce.

For over twenty years, Miss Dean Weiss has been the active spiritual friend of every young person in the Epworth League. For the past several years she has been the sponsor of the League. Her untiring service to the youth of the church has meant much to the young people who have known her. Even as Miss Meeker has stood out in point of service in the Sunday School and Mrs. Crowell has stood out in the Ladies Aid, even so, Miss Weiss stands out in the work of the Epworth League through the past twenty-five or thirty years. She has not missed many meetings of the Epworth League through all this period. Quietly and steadily she has remained young with those who have loved her through the years.

Among the presidents of the local chapter since its organization are: Arthur Griggs; J. J. Allison, 1893-1895; Fred C. Ewer, 1896; Mrs. Mattie Gibbs, 1897; Mrs. Carrie Ingersoll; Lena Krimbill, 1902; Josephine Meeker, 1904-1905; Albert Houk, 1906; John Endress, Sr.; Grant Frederick, 1919; Mrs. J. A. Ayling, 1920; Arthur B. Frame, 1921; Maude Hathaway, 1922; Dora Aken, 1923; Edwin F. Knight, 1924; Dorothy Curnick, 1924; Meredith Taylor, 1925; Enoch Frederick, 1926; Mary Baldwin, 1927; Margaret Endress, 1928; Cecil McColley, 1929; Nina Adank, 1930; Doris Enterline, 1931-1932; Joyce Frame, 1933; Bryant Brown, 1934; Mrs. Becky Wilson, 1935; Ruth Kammert, 1936; and Kenneth Knight, 1937.

JUNIOR LEAGUE

The children who are too young to become members of the Epworth League are organized into a society known as the Junior Epworth League. These children meet each Wednesday at 4 p. m. at the church. There they study the Bible, hear stories which teach some lesson connected with their lives, and also have a foreign missionary lesson once each month. This group has as its superintendent, Miss Lela Lottes who has very capably led them for the last three years. She also takes them through a course in church membership during the Lenten and Pre-Christmas seasons.

JUNIOR CHURCH

In the year 1924, during the pastorate of Reverend George B. Jones, a church service for the children was organized under the leadership of Mrs. Joseph E. Brown. Too young to understand all that the adult service offers, the children were led in their service at the same time in the parlors. Afterward, Mr. Arthur B. Frame was the leader of this group. For a number of years the services for juniors were discontinued.

In 1935, the junior church was re-established under the leadership of Miss Lela Lottes. The children are members of the adult congregation until the conclusion of the opening worship service. Then the pastor tells them a Junior Sermon. They move quietly into the parlors during the hymn preceding the sermon, where they have their own concluding service.

THE NURSERY

In 1936, the nursery was organized under the direction of Miss Faith Lottes. Parents may bring their small children to the parlors and they are there told stories and led in songs which make the morning church hour a pleasure and a joy to both the parents and the little ones. This is a great sacrifice on the part of Miss Faith and her several assistants for they must miss the church services in doing the greater service to the parents and children of the church and constituency. Handwork and lesson games are used to make the Bible stories interesting.

DAILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

In 1924, the Vacation Bible School was organized in our church under the direction of Miss Esther Jones, Herbert Jones, Miss Ruby McCarty and Mrs. Joseph E. Brown, assisting. This corps was followed in 1926 by Mrs. Fred Goyer, Miss Anna Weiland, Miss Doris Enterline, Mrs. Joseph Snyder. For three summers these workers conducted this school and made a most helpful and interesting contribution to the life of the church and community. Since that time we have cooperated with the Presbyterian church in conducting a daily Vacation Bible School. This summer, 1938, we plan to conduct our own school again.

BOY SCOUTS

W. Vincent Youkey organized the Boy Scouts in Crown Point in the year 1912. He was succeeded as scoutmaster by the following men in order: Rev. Charles U. Stockbarger, Joseph E. Brown, Grant Frederick, Arthur B. Frame, and Edwin F. Knight. At the first this troop was not a Methodist sponsored organization, although many of our members have served as scoutmasters, assistant scoutmasters, and troop committeemen during the organization's existence. Among those belonging to our church, besides the men previously mentioned, we have: Burton M. Cox, Howard Barr, Meredith Taylor, Vernie Bowen and the writer of this article. From the constituency of the church, the following men have given of their time and labor: George W. Frederick, Clayton D. Root, Sr., Harry Barr and Paul Church.

Several years ago, the official board of our church voted to sponsor a scout troop. This is known as scout troop No. 45. Edwin F. Knight is the scoutmaster and the assistant scoutmasters are Jack Ross and Wendell Norris. The present troop committee is made up of Paul Church, chairman, Vernie Bowen, Grant Frederick, Arthur Frame, and the pastor.

BOY CUBS

The boys under twelve, too young to join the Boy Scouts, have been organized as Cub Scouts with Harold Clevenger as the Cubmaster. The sponsorship and direction of this group has also been made a part of our church work. Every Monday after school the Cubs meet in the church for a most interesting time. Many a Saturday morning you can see them starting off on a hike, a visit to Chicago, or some other interesting and instructive jaunt. They have been working under their leader's direction for the past two years and have a fine organization perfected.

CAMP FIRE GIRLS

During the pastorate of the Rev. George B. Jones, his wife organized the girls of the church between the ages of twelve and eighteen years of age into the Camp Fire Girls. This group was very active during Mr. Jones' pastorate in Crown Point, and for two years afterward. The Blue spruce evergreen tree on the public square in Crown Point, near the southeast corner of the Lake County Court House, was planted by this group of girls with the thought in mind that some day it would become a Community Christmas Tree. Mrs. Jones was the First Guardian. After her departure from Crown Point, Miss Gladys Howard, now Mrs. Terrence Davitt, acted as Guardian.

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Crown Point Methodist Episcopal Church dates back to the year 1878. This earnest group of women has done a most effective work in presenting the foreign missionary work of our world-wide church to our local membership. On the third Thursday of the month the ladies meet to study their work in the various foreign fields of the world, plan to raise their funds in order to support their missionaries, and are a part of the group of loyal women who believe in taking the Great Commission of our Lord seriously. "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel" When the men were too busy, these women were willing to sacrifice their own desires in appreciation of the privilege which was theirs in being born into a Christian land where womanhood was held in high esteem. So these women of our church have "carried on" with courage and steadfastness. This year, the group has pledged $200.00 for the support of the Christian work in foreign fields.

Several outstanding missionary workers from foreign fields have been heard with great interest and profit throughout the years. Each Fall, the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of our church in Crown Point sponsors a "Round the World Tour" to interest the whole community in the missionary cause. Each lady transforms her home into some foreign country. One home is China, another is India, etc. The membership of the church and the community as a whole come to this great tour. The final stop is the church parlors and this is America. Refreshments are served at each place. In the final stop, America, we have group singing and a talk by some person from the foreign field. This has done much to stimulate interest in Foreign Missions.

The presidents in order have been: Mrs. W. A. Scheddell, Mrs. J. C. Gibbs, Mrs. W. E. Vilmer, Miss Josephine Meeker, Mrs. A. P. Hubbell. Miss Josephine Meeker, Mrs. E K. Sowash, and Mrs. F. L. Busenburg, the present president.

Auxiliary branches of the missionary society are the Standard Bearers with Mrs. Joyce Frame Taylor as sponsor, the King's Heralds with Miss Lela Lottes as sponsor, and the Little Light Bearers with Mrs. William Lyons as sponsor.

WOMEN'S HOME MISSIONARY AUXILIARY

In March of 1918, the Isabella Thoburn society was organized by Mrs. John Ayling. The primary aim of this organization was to give the young business and professsional women and the young mothers of the church an opportunity to have evening meetings for the study of missions. The official program for foreign mission study was followed each year. A little Indian girl, (a Hindu by birth) given the American name of Mary Mathews, was supported by

the society in order that she might finish the courses in La Bah High School and Isabella Thoburn College in India.

When the Isabella Thoburn group had finished the education of Mary Mathews, they decided to do Home Mission work and reorganized accordingly. Friendship House, Hammond Baby Clinic, and the Lake County Tuberculosis Sanatorium have been projects undertaken. Mrs. Joseph E. Brown, sponsor of this group, is a member of the Friendship House Board in Gary, Indiana, having been appointed in 1933, by Rev. E. W. Strecker, to represent our church. The affiliate group of the Women's Home Missionary Auxiliary is the Home Guards, with Miss Lela Lottes the sponsor.

THE CHOIR

The music department has been faithfully bringing the great music of the church, Sunday after Sunday.

Throughout the years, many faithful and loyal workers have served the church through the choir. Among the pipe organists we remember with great pleasure are: Donald Stockbarger, Hazel Kilborne Stockbarger, Anna Weiland, Charlotte Love, Mrs. Louis Williamson and our present organist-director, Miss Helen Louise Goedecke. Faithful workers in our present choir are: Mrs. Frances Hagen, Dorothea Rushton, Betty Aken, Mrs. Wm. Sjoerdinga, Mrs. Charles Kolar, Jr., Lola Tennant, Mrs. Zella Westphal, Harry Hisey, George Ross, Pat Isenbarger, Wm. Lyons, John Tennant, Mrs. Ruth Tennant, Mrs. Priscilla Clevenger, Miss Helen Phares, Mrs. Mary Beth McFall, Evelyn Bowen, and Wilma Frame. Mrs. Frances Hagen is president of the choir. Several choir directors come to mind as we review the past several years. They are Mrs. David A. Root, Fay Smith, Leila Buehler, Ralph Jones, Mrs. Walter Mybeck and Hallie Blanchard.

Among the vocalists who are recalled are the members of a quartette who sang many years. Julia Merrill Vilmer, [Mrs. W. E.] was the soprano, Mrs. May Fancher Crowell [Mrs. Eugene] was the contralto, John Endress was the tenor, and Frank Houk was the bass.

Others who were loyal workers through many years of service: Allie Merrill, Pearl Hart, John Houk, Marguerite Houk Youkey, Thelma Smith Bullock, Elmer Bullock, Harry Hisey, Frances Hagen, Cleo Hayden, Dora Hayden, Grant Frederick, Lillian Vilmer Love, Allie Hisey, Doris Enterline, Essa Knight, Mary Frederick, Mary Teagle, Walter Westphal, Zella Westphal. Perhaps others should be included in this list and if any names are omitted, their work is just as much appreciated as is the fine loyalty of those named.

THE LADIES AID

We do not know just when the Ladies Aid was organized in our local church. We do have some mighty interesting facts from one of the most qualified persons in the Aid at the present time. This person is Mrs. May Crowell, who has been the loyal and dependable treasurer of the society for the past thirty-two years

The president of the society from 1890 until 1900 was Mrs. Samuel Witherell, from 1900 until 1907, Mrs. Eizabeth Crowell; from 1907 until 1935, Mrs. David A. Root; from 1935 until 1937, Mrs. David Stewart. Mrs. John W. Iddings is the present president.

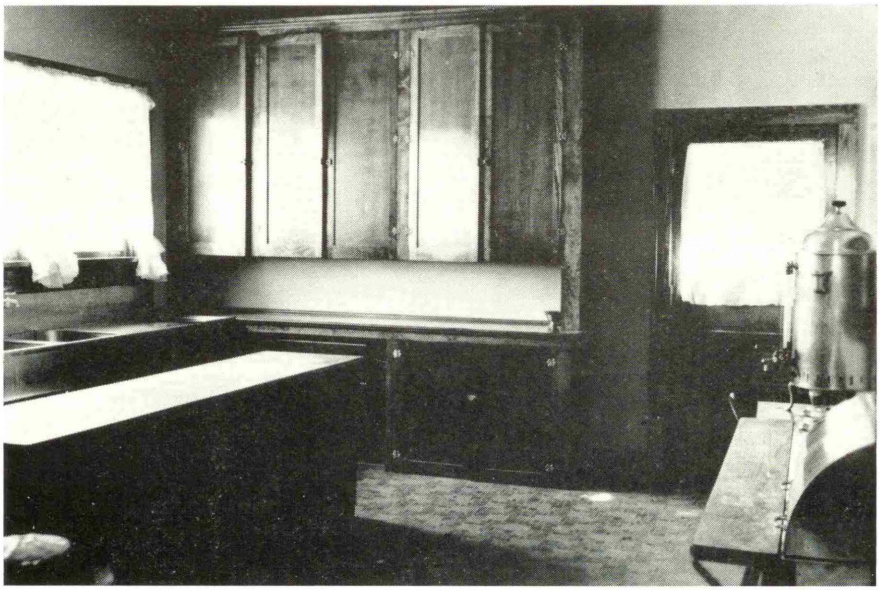
A few years ago the society was divided into two sections for efficiency of effort. We now have the two societies working in a fine harmonious way together, the Kettledrum Society, with Mrs. George Compton as president, and the Pollyanna Circle, with Mrs. John Holland as the president. Last year the Ladies of the Aid, of both the sections, took over the decorations of the sanctuary and installed the new pulpit furniture in memory of Mr. and Mrs. David A. Root. Thus, on our centennial year, the church is beautiful and clean and is in such fine condition that with care and thoughtfulness, it should last for many years to come.

Mrs. May Crowell gives the following statistics from the treasurer's book which she has kept so faithfully and well for the past thirty-two years:

Money raised—$25,000.00 and some over.
Money spent—$25,000.00 and some over.
Most money raised in one year—$1,600.00 in 1919.
Most money raised in three years—$3,600.00 in 1919, 1920, 1921.

The ladies redecorated the church in 1919 and spent over $1,100.00. They also helped with the redecoration in 1927 and 1928 with substantial gifts. THE LADIES OF THE AID ARE JUST WHAT THEIR NAME SIGNIFIES —They give great aid in every time of need. What would the ministers of our churches do without the aid of the Ladies Aid?

CHURCH BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT



OUR NEW KITCHEN BUILT 1936

During the pioneer days, the several denominations in the village of Crown Point united in church services in the old log court house. In 1847, since the community had grown much larger, the Methodist congregation decided to erect a church building of their own. At a great sacrifice, the members, under the direction of the pastor, Rev. Samuel Lamb, and aided by friends in the community, succeeded in carrying their plans through to a successful consummation.

Solon Robinson,* one of the founders of Crown Point, donated the lot upon which the building was erected. Perhaps some of the comments made by him at the time may be interesting so we will quote them here: "In the summer of 1845 that beautiful structure, which is such an ornament to our town, the Methodist Church of Crown Point, was erected, but not completely finished off as it is now, until the following season, and to keep pace with it (a snail's pace is easily kept,) the foundation of that commodiously finished structure. the Presbyterian Church was laid. I hope a future historian will be able to write that, 'In 1847 two neatly FINISHED churches in Crown Point were completed, and from that time ever forward, we were called to the hour and house of prayer by the sound of a sweet-toned village bell' "**.

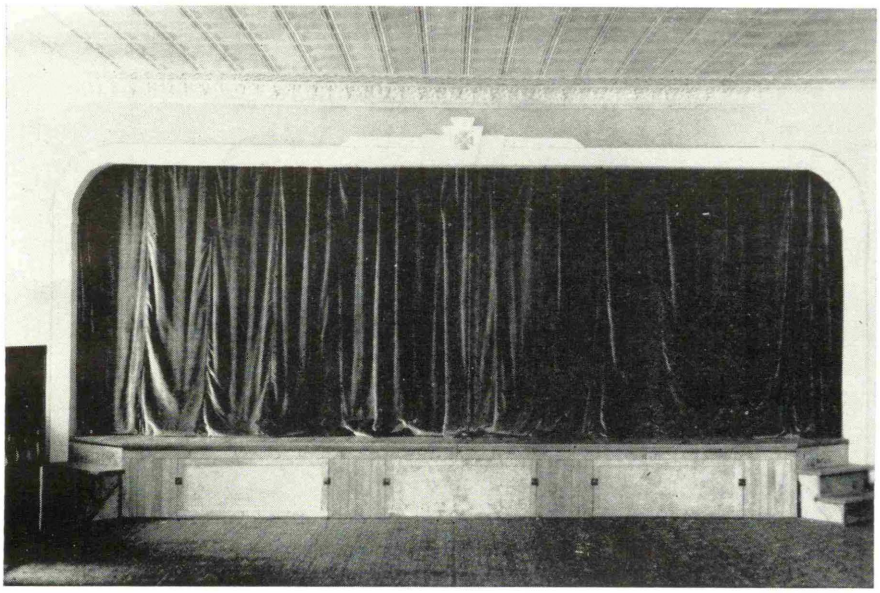
The Rev. J. W. Greene was the Crown Point pastor in the years 1858 and 1859. During his pastorate a wonderful revival took place. A new church building, very commodious for those days, was built. We may judge that they built well when we consider the undisputed statement that the framework of the structure of 1860 is that which encloses the sanctuary of our present building.

Interest was so great in the work of the church in those troublous days that the church building, at times, would not hold all of those who sought to attend services.

During the pastorate of the Rev. W. A. Mathews, in 1896, the church building was thor-

* Solon Robinson was postmaster at Crown Point, justice of the peace, and county clerk. He later became agricultural editor of the New York Tribune and is given the credit for being one of the pioneers in the development of modern agriculture. The reader is referred to Solon Robinson, 1825-1846, 1846-1851. Kellar. 2 Vol.

** History of Lake County, Indiana. Vol. X. Page 57.



OUR NEW STAGE IN PARLOR BUILT 1937

oughly remodeled, the outside of the building veneered with brick, the balcony removed, a warm-air heating plant installed, and the old pews were replaced with opera chairs.

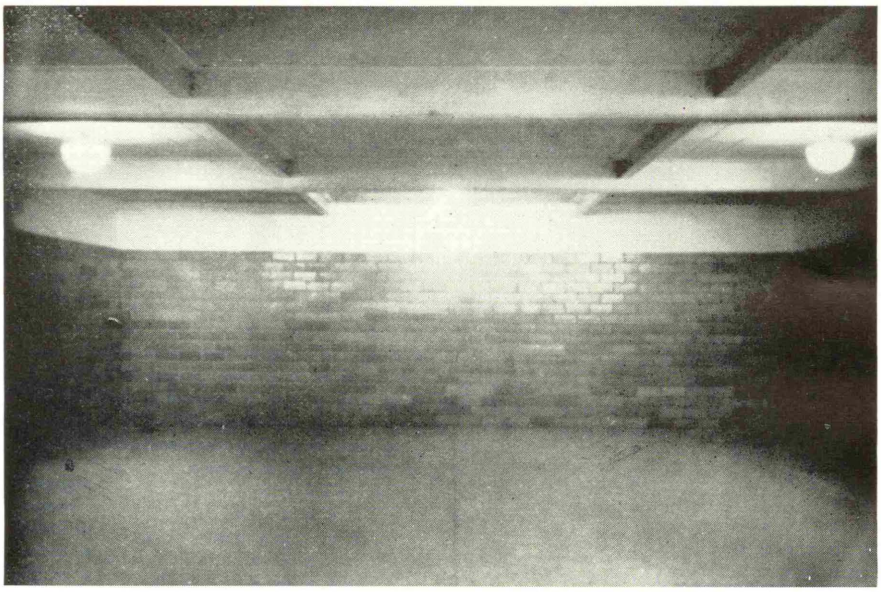
Until 1902, the choir had been accompanied by an organist using one of the old-fashioned chapel organs. During this year, several members of the church decided that some action should be taken towards the raising of funds for a pipe organ. Mrs. David A. Root, who was one of the active members of the church in that year, informed the writer that the committee planned to secure a heavy donation from Andrew Carnegie. As Judge Elbert H. Gary was an old friend of the Root family and also a very good friend of Mr. Carnegie, they advised with him as to the proper procedure. Mr. Carnegie refused to make the solicited contribution. Mrs. Root then took the matter up with Judge Gary as to the advisability of again soliciting Mr. Carnegie for a donation. Judge Gary informed her that Mr. Carnegie could not be induced to change his mind. The judge then very graciously inquired if they would accept a gift from him instead of Mr. Carnegie. Having been advised of its acceptability, the judge then sent a sizeable check, which lent so much encouragement to the committee that they soon raised the necessary funds for the organ.

In the fall of 1927 and the spring of 1928, during the pastorate of Dr. Madian H. Appleby, the church was redecorated and a new sloping hardwood floor was laid. New lights were purchased for the worship sanctuary and installed.

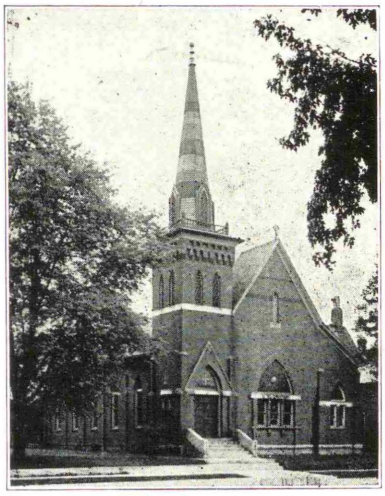
During the pastorate of the Rev. Merrill B. McFall, the present modern kitchen and pantry were added, adjoining the parlors on the east. A stage, built in 1937, now takes the place of the former kitchen at the south end of the church parlors.

During the same year, the two groups composing the Ladies' Aid Society of the church had the sanctuary redecorated, new lectern, new communion table and pulpit installed, the pipe organ overhauled, the consol lowered, and the pews and floor refinished. The new pulpit furniture was installed in memory of Mr. and Mrs. David A. Root, both of whom were members of the official board of our church. Mrs Root served for over 20 years as president of the Ladies' Aid Society of the church.

During the winter of 1937-38 and the spring of 1938 the space under the church parlors and the kitchen has been excavated and made into two nice rooms. The large room beneath the church parlor has a tile-red concrete floor with brick and concrete walls which are faced with glazed wall-tile. The smaller room has a concrete floor and brick and concrete walls. This smaller room houses the modern air-conditioning unit which takes the place of the warm-



OUR NEW BASEMENT RECREATION AND SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM
BUILT 1938



CHURCH BUILDING BEFORE 1937 REMODELING

air furnace formerly in use in this portion offor the various recreational activities of the the church edifice. The air-conditioning unityoung people, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and will serve the church parlors, kitchen, the largesimilar groups throughout the week. On Sun- basement room and the three lavatories. day it will be in use by the Junior Department

It is planned to use the large basement roomof the Sunday school.

CEDAR LAKE COMMUNITY M. E. CHURCH

On January 30, 1938 our pastor was permitted to witness the fruition of his labors in the Cedar Lake community. At that time, under the direction and supervision of the Rev. Elmer Jones, district superintendent of the South Bend district of the Northwest Indiana Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Community Methodist Episcopal Church of Cedar Lake, Indiana was organized.

From a historical viewpoint it is interesting to note that the new church was organized in the vicinity of the old West Point settlement (at the present Cedar Lake school building in Center Township) only a few miles from the site of the log cabin home of William Payne in which Bishop Robert R. Roberts had conducted quarterly meeting services one-hundred years ago.

Leonard Barman is the superintendent of the Sunday school. Mr. Barman and his wife aided the pastor, loyally, in making this project a reality. The new church organization is enthusiastic and, with the large field in which to work, should become a power for good. May God bless them and keep them steadfast.

OFFICERS OF THE
CEDAR LAKE COMMUNITY M. E. CHURCH

Trustees—Mr. Barman, Mr. Foster, Mr. Botteron, Mr. Hogdahl, Mr. Kersten.

Steward, Disbursing and Connectional—Mr. Foster.

Communion Steward—Mrs. Barman.

Recording Steward—Mrs. Steube.

Regular Stewards—Mrs. Foster, Mr. Barman, Gladys Gard, Mrs. Umfleet, Jane Glover, Mrs. Kersten, Mr. Botteron, Mrs. Steube.

Membership—Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Holland, Mrs. Barman, Mrs. Gard.

Music—Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Holland, Mrs. Mowbray.

Religious Education—Mr. Barman, Mr. Kersten, Bill Holdson.

World Service and Social Service—Mrs. Steube, Mrs. Glover, Mrs. Norman.

Auditing—Mrs. Hogdahl, Mrs. Brooks, Mr. Botteron.

Nominating—Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Steube, Mrs. Barman, Mr. Hogdahl, Mr. Foster.

Finance—Mr. Foster, Mr. Barman, Mr. Botteron.

Temperance—Mrs. Botteron, Florence Barman, Jane Glover.

Trier of Appeals—Mr. Barman.

Reverend McFall has been assisted mightily in the Cedar Lake church for the past few weeks by Mr. J. H. Vaughn. Brother Vaughn comes to our membership from the deep south, where he was a member of the Baptist church as local preacher. At our fourth Quarterly Conference, we will present him to our church officials for local preacher's license. He will do much for the local church as well as the work in Cedar Lake Community M. E. church. He and the pastor plan to open up the work in the Creston church in the near future. The building still stands there, just as it was when used regularly for preaching years ago. In the past few years the Sunday School has been conducted in this historic church but no regular preaching services by our denomination. Thus, we hope to reopen two former mission points.

MEMORIALS AND BEQUESTS

The church and its various societies have been the beneficiaries of a number of bequests made by deceased members and deceased friends of the church.

One of these was that left by Samuel Noyce Witherell to be used in the erection of the church parlors, as a memorial to his wife and himself. The Rev. Tiffin F. Drake was then pastor.

Another bequest was made by the late David A. Root, Sr., to the Ladies Aid organization, in memory of his wife.

Mrs. Ardella Fancher and Mrs. Carrie B. Ingersoll, both left substantial legacies to the church which have been used in the various improvement projects.

Memorial windows have been placed in memory of the following members of our church: Hon. Thomas J. Wood and his children; Mrs. Thomas J. Wood; Samuel Noyce Witherell and his wife; Edwin Bragington and Susan Bragington; William A. Winslow and Mrs. Mary A. Winslow; Jacob Houk; Rev. C. U. Stockbarger; Charles Kitchell; Rev. Timothy Horton Ball

and Mrs. Martha Creighton Ball. All but the last two individuals were members of our church. Rev. Timothy Horton Ball was the pioneer historian of Lake County. His father, Judge Hervey Ball, who lived at Cedar Lake, was one of the founders of the Cedar Lake Baptist Church. As a young man, Timothy was ordained as a minister of the Gospel in that church. He organized the North Street Baptist Church in this city and served as its pastor during its existence. Always interested in the building up of Christ's Kingdom he was always glad to co-operate with his brethren in the other churches, both Protestant and Roman Catholic. His daughter often served as organist in our church. The memorial window is only a small expression of our appreciation of this brother in the work of the Master.

In 1937, Miss Ella Goff presented the church with two beautiful silk flags, the Christian flag and the flag of our nation. These are given as a memorial to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George P. Goff.

While searching through the old records we were rewarded by discovering an old pulpit Bible bearing the inscription on the fly-leaf, "Presented to the Crown Point M. E. Church in 1852." The name of the donor is not given. Shall we consider this to be a memorial to the pioneers?

The beautiful enclosed bulletin board which stands on an oak frame in front of the church is a memorial to Mrs. Carrie D. Root (Mrs. David A. Root) and was presented to the church as a memorial by the pastor and his wife in 1936.

In the years to come, perhaps during our sesqui-centennial or bi-centennial observance of the organization of our church, there may be some who will find the names of the present members of the Crown Point Methodist Episcopal Church of interest. This list, which was compiled for us from the membership records of the church kept under the supervision of the membership committee, is as nearly correct as they can make it.

MEMBERSHIP ROLL

Adank, Mrs. Irene Houk
Adank, Miss Wilma
Adank, Miss Janet Edna
Aiken, Miss Lois Leona
Aiken, Miss Shirley Ann
Aken, Ammon
Aken, Miss Lloyd
Ainsworth, Harold
Anderson, Miss Marian
Anderon, Miss Wanda
Anderson, Mrs. Elmer (Venita)
Ash, Samuel
Ash, Mrs. Samuel
Adams, Emery
Bacon, Mrs. C. C. [Orrel]
Bacon, Miss Edna
Bacon, Miss Bernice
Batchelor, Russell
Barr, Howard
Barr, Mrs. Howard [Ethel]
Barr, Mrs. Harry [Frankie]
Barr, Miss Wilma
Barr, Stanley
Baldwin, John
Barman, Leonard
Barman, Mrs. Leonard
Barman, Miss Florence
Barnhart, Mrs. Mabel
Barnhart, Miss Dorothy
Belanger, Mrs. Juanita
Belanger, Murrell, Jr.
Beattie, Mrs. Gertrude
Beattie, Miss Matilda
Becker, Mrs. Clarence [Bernice]
Belshaw, Charles
Belshaw, Mrs. Charles [Jennie]
Bibler, Mrs. Mary Mariam
Bixenman, Mr. Wm. E.
Bixenman, Mrs. Wm. E. [Marie]
Blanchard, Hallie
Blankenship, Mrs. Mabel
Blankenship, Miss Viola
Blankenship, William
Blankenship, Merle
Blankenship, Mildred
Bochus, Miss Anna
Borchert, John
Bowen, Vernie
Bowen, Mrs. Vernie [Pearl]
Bowen, Otis
Bowen, Miss Evelyn
Bowen, Richard
Bowen, Miss Sarah
Boyd, Lee
Boyd, Mrs. Lee [Ann]
Boyd, Lee, Jr.
Bunker, Robert
Brittan, J. W.
Brittan, Mrs. J. W.
Brittan, Roy
Brittan, Margaret
Bradford, Mrs. Blanche

Bradford, Miss Ruth
Bradford, Robert
Bradford, Edward
Broad, Dr. C. E.
Broad, Mr. C. E. [Charlotte[
Broad, Miss Cora
Brown, Joseph E.
Brown, Mrs. Joseph E. [Avis]
Brown, Bryant
Brown, Wilford
Brown, Warren
Bruner, Mrs. Jay [Ethel]
Burge, Mrs. Eda
Bullock, Elmer
Bullock, Mrs. Elmer [Thelma]
Busenburg, F. L.
Busenburg, Mrs. F. L. [Dessa]
Busenburg, Charles
Clark, Jim Edd
Condon, Miss Jeanette
Crowell, Mrs. E. H. [May]
Claussen, Mrs. John [Anna]
Conter, Mrs. L. F. [Georgia]
Conner, Earl D.
Conner, Mrs. Earl D. [Harriet]
Cottingham, Mrs. Maude
Claussen, Arthur
Dickens, Mrs. Leona
Davidson, Dorothy
Diddie, Mrs. Levi [Mary E.]
Dillabaugh, Charles
Dillabaugh, Mrs. Charles [Emma]
Dillabaugh, Walter
Dickinson, Mrs. Barton [Anna]
Dickinson, Hal
Donnaha, Mrs. John A. [Minnie]
Donnaha, Edward A.
Davitt, Mrs. Terrance [Gladys]
Ellis, Burton
Ellis, Mrs. Burton, [Cora Belle]
Ellis, Robert Fowler
Ellis, Miss Florence Mildred
Emmons, Harold
Erwin, Cecil
Erwin, Mrs. Cecil
Farquhar, Augusta Hildred
Farquhar, Winifred Lucille
Flathau, Miss Mary Ellen
Fields, Philip
Fields, Mrs. Philip [Myrtle]
Frame, Arthur
Frame, Mrs. Arthur [Flossie]
Frame, Miss Alys
Frame, Miss Wilma
Frame, Miss Marjorie
Frame, Paul
Frederick, Mrs. Geo. [Ida Pauline]
Frederick, Enoch Arden
Frederick, Grant
Frederick, Mrs. Grant [Mary Ellen]
Flemming, George
Flemming, Mrs. George
Foster, Mrs. Mary
Foster, Miss Golda Mae
Foster, Miss Grace
Fitch, Mrs. Etta
Fitch, Franklin
Fitch, Alfred
Fitch, Rex
Fitch, Mrs. Rex [Eleanor]
Fuerst, Mrs. A. E. [Emma]
Fuerst, Miss Betty Lou
Fuerst, Jack
Forsler, Golda
Grose, Mrs. Alice K.
Garland, Terry
Goff, Miss Ella
Gard, Alexander
Gard, Mrs. Alexander
Gard, Lester
Gard, Melvin
Gard, Russell
Gray, Dr. Daniel E.
Gray, Mrs. Daniel E. [Mabel]
Griffin, Miss Betty Lou
Gill, Gerald
Gill, Mrs. Gerald
Graper, Gordon A.
Graper, Mrs. Gordon [Erma]
Graper, Richard
Grayson, C. A.
Grayson, Mrs. C. A.
Grayson, Miss Mary
Grayson, Robert
Hertz, Willard
Hertz, Mrs. Willard
Hornbrook, Orice S.
Hornbrook, Mrs. Orice S.
Hayden, Mrs. Bert [Blanche]
Hayden, Cleo Elton
Hayden, Mrs. Cleo [Dora]
Hess, Dr. S. J.
Hendrickson, Orvel
Hendrickson, Mrs. Orvel
Held, Lowell C.
Held, Mrs. Lowell [Leota]
Houk, Miss Charlotte
Houk, Warren
Henderlong, Arnold
Howard, Harry
Howard, Mrs. Harry [Margaret]
Howard, Boyd
Hagen, Mrs. Arthur [Frances]
Hisey, Harry
Hisey, Mrs. Harry [Allie]
Hershman, Mrs. George [May]
Hubbell, Mrs. A. P. [Margaret]
Heidbreder, Mrs. Wilbur [Nina]
Hedman, Mrs. Mildred
Hamilton, Kenneth

Compton, George
Compton, Mrs. George

Hoshaw, Miss Georgia
Hoshaw, Vernon
Hoshaw, Harry
Hoshaw, Wilbur
Holland, Mrs. John [Della]
Holland, Miss Hazel
Holland, Floyd
Houk, Mrs. Clarence J. [Mattie]
Hall, Miss Ula
Hathaway, Miss Margaret
Hill, Mrs. Darrell
Hooser, Mrs. Roy
Heisterberg, Mrs. Robert [June]
Hufton, A. E.
Hufton, Mrs. A. E.
Iddings, Dr. John W.
Iddings, Mrs. John W. [Myrtle]
Isenbarger, Mrs. M. E.
Isenbarger, Pat
Johnson, Arthur
Johnson, Mrs. Arthur [Fannie]
Johnstone, Mrs. Wilhelmina
Jenkins, Mrs. Mary E.
Joyce, Mrs. Frank [Inez]
Joyce, Richard
Joyce, Donald
Jones, Mrs. Ellen
Jergens, Mrs. Martha
Jacobsma, Garrett
Jacobsma, Mrs. Garrett [Anna]
Jacobsma, Miss Anna
Jacobsma, Garrett Jr.
Kolar, Charles Jr.
Kolar, Mrs. Charles Jr. [Mary]
Karn, Francis
Karn, John William
Karn, Mrs. Lura
Kentner, Ralph
Kammert, Christian
Kammert, Mrs. Christian [Myrtle]
Kammert, Robert
Kammert, Ruth
Kammert, Richard
Kleinfelter, Miss Ruth
Keiser, Mrs. P. W.
Keiser, Mrs. Howard
Knesek, Herman
Knesek, Harvey
Knesek, Carl
Knesek, Joseph
Kobelin, Miss Caroline
Kobelin, Mrs. F. W. [Julia]
Krost, John R.
Krost, Mrs. John R. [Cecil]
Krost, Meredith Mae [Miss]
Knight, Edwin F.
Knight, Mrs. Edwin F. [Terressa]
Knight, Eugene Crowell
Knight, Kenneth Edwin
Kitchel, Mrs. Anna
Lottes, Miss Ruth
Lottes, Miss Faith
Lottes, Miss Lela
Love, Samuel A., III
Love, Mrs. Samuel A., III [Lillian]
Love, Miss Charlotte
Letsinger, Arthur E.
Letsinger, Mrs. Arthur E. [Naomi]
Lisius, Mrs. F. G. [Ella]
Lisius, Roland
Linton, Mrs. Blanche A.
Lamb, Mr. Robert
Lamb, Mrs. Robert [Beulah]
Linton, Irvin
Linton, Mrs. Irvin [Gladys]
Lockhart, Ross
Lockhart, Mrs. Ross [Gwyneth]
McMichael, Everett
McMichael, Mrs. Everett [Christine]
McColley, Cecil
McColley, Arthur
McColley, Edward
McColley, Mrs. Edward [Wilma]
Mounce, Miss Loraine
McCarty, Mrs. Katherine
McCarty, Miss Minnie
McCarty, Miss Ruby
McCarty, Ernest H.
McCarty, Raymond G.
McCarty, Miss Sylvia
McCarty, Miss Verna
McFall, Merrill B.
McFall, Mrs. Merrill. [Mary Beth]
Muzzall, Mrs. Edward [Jennie]
Muzzall, Miss Ruth
Mackey, Earle
Mybeck, Mrs. Walter [Genevieve]
Mybeck, Robert
Mybeck, Richard
Marlatt, Ralph Joseph
Murton, Mrs. William
Murton, Mrs. John H. [Florence]
Murr, Miss Juanita
Matthews, Miss Beatrice
Margison, Miss Lorraine
Meeker, Miss Josephine
Moor, Mrs. Ruby Dickinson
Mandernach, E. W.
Mandernach, Mrs. E. W.
McWayne, Charles
McWayne, Mrs. Charles [Katherine]
Milburn, Miss Norma
Neier, Chester
Patrick, Miss Barbara
Patrick, Richard
Patton, Miss Sarah Ann
Pattee, Manford
Pattee, Mrs. Manford [Mabel]
Pelton, Mrs. Hiram [Grace]
Pelton, Herbert

Pelton, Mrs. Herbert [Edna]
Petersen, E. A.
Petersen, Mrs. E. A.
Petersen, Joseph
Petersen, Mrs. Joseph [Doris]
Petersen, Miss Merle
Pratt, John W.
Pratt, Mrs. John W. [Louise]
Pratt, Russell
Pratt, Pauline [Miss]
Pickford, Mrs. Jack [Alma]
Platt, Arthur T.
Platt, Mrs. Arthur T.
Pierceall, Mrs. William Jr. [Thelma]
Rosenthal, Mrs. Evaline
Rahner, Mrs. Rose
Randolph, Mrs. George Jr.]Louise]
Reeder, Edward
Reeder, Mrs. Edward [Minnie[
Rose, William C.
Rose, Mrs. Wm. C.]Mary]
Rose, Miss Doris M.
Root, Clayton D. Jr.
Root, John
Root, Carol
Root, David
Ross, Jack
Ross, George
Rushton, Mrs. Fred [Florence]
Rushton, Miss Dorothea
Ready, Mrs. Eldon [Frances]
Rush, Miss Edna
Schroeder, Mrs. Elizabeth
Schnurlein, Mrs. Wm. [Ida]
Schnurlein, Miss Neva
Schnurlein, Roger H.
Schnurlein, Mrs. Roger [Estelle]
Shuttz, Charles
Shuttz, Mrs. Charles
Shade, Orval
Shade, Mrs. Orval [Esther]
Sherman, Miss Emma
Stamp, George
Stamp, Mrs. George [Susie]
Stech, Mrs. Nancy Belle
Smith, Walton
Sowash, E. K.
Sowash, Mrs. E. K. [Nellie]
Sowash, Miss Georgianna
Stewart, Miss Wilma
Stewart, Miss Marjorie
Stewart, Mrs. Lucena
Stewart, David
Stewart, Mrs. David [Bertha]
Stewart, Miss Harriett
Sjoerdinga, Mrs. William [Oakellee]
Tennant, Miss Lola
Tennant, Miss Helen
Tennant, Robert
Tennant, Frank
Tullis, Dr. Everett
Tullis, Mrs. Everett [Maxine]
Taylor, Arthur G.
Taylor, Mrs. Arthur G. [Mabel]
Taylor, Miss Elizabeth
Teagle, Mrs. E. J. [Mary]
Thompson, Mrs. Wm. [Alta]
Trump, Miss Mildred
Trump, Miss Wilma
Tucker, Miss Genevieve
Turley, Mrs. Bernice Frederick
Taylor, Mrs. Allan [Joyce]
Van Veld, Mrs. Tunis [Myrtle]
Van Veld, Robert
Van Veld, Miss Phyllis
Vincent, Mrs. Emma
Vaughn, Mr. J. H.
Vaughn, Mrs. J. H. [Annette]
Waggonblast, William
Waggonblast, Miss Cynthia
Waggonblast, Harry
Weiland, Miss Anna
Weiland, Walter
Woods, Miss Lois
Wendell, Mrs. Lolita [Mrs. Carl]
Westphal, Mrs. Minnie
Westphal, Russell
Westphal, Mrs. Russell [Jeanette]
Westphal, Della Myrtle [Miss]
Westphal, Clayton
Westphal, Clifford
Westphal, Mrs. Clifford [Dorothy]
Wearne, Richard
Wearne, Mrs. Richard
Will, Miss Anna
Will, Miss Louise
Westphal, Walter
Westphal, Mrs. Walter [Zella]
Westphal, Robert
Westphal, Miss Doris
Whitehead, Mrs. William J. [Nellie]
Whitehead, Miss Alice
Whitehead, Miss Martha
Whitehead, William
Wheeler, Mrs. John W. [Ruth]
Wheeler, John Pavey
Winslow, Mrs. Alfred A. [Sadie]
Weiss, Miss Dean
Weiss, Miss Ida
Wheeler, A. M.
Wheeler, Mrs. A. M.
Youkey, W. Vincent
Youkey, Mrs. W. V. [Marguerite]
Youkey, Robert Vincent
Zajicek, Donald
Zajicek, George, Jr.
Zieseness, Murray
Zieseness, Mrs. Murray

OFFICIAL MEMBERS

COMPOSING THE QUARTERLY CONFERENCE OF OUR CHURCH, FOR THE CONFERENCE YEAR BEGINNING, JUNE, 1937

Trustees, Board of

David Stewart, Chairman
Arthur G. Taylor, Vice Chairman.
Edwin F. Knight, Treasurer.
Joseph E. Brown, Secretary.
Dr. John W. Iddings
Charles Belshaw
Charles G. McWayne
Clayton D. Root, Sr.
W. Vincent Youkey
Eugene Crowell, Trustee emeritus (deceased).

Stewards, Board of

Harry Hisey, District steward
Clifford Westphal, Alternate district steward
Miss Ida Weiss, Communion steward.
Lowell Held, Disbursing steward.
Arthur G. Taylor, Recording steward
Cecil Erwin
Miss Josephine Meeker
Miss Dean Weiss
F. L. Busenburg
Arthur Frame
Manford Pattee
Mrs. Julia Kobelin
Miss Ella Goff
Mrs. Alta Thompson
Christian Kammert
Dr. Daniel Gray
Mrs. Frances Hagen
Philip Fields
Russell Westphal
Walter Westphal
A. M. Wheeler
Dr. Everett Tullis
John Krost
Mrs. John H. Murton
Vernie Bowen
Harold Clevenger
Arthur Letsinger

Unit Leaders

Mrs. Christian Kammert
Mrs. Barton Dickinson
Mrs. Edwin Knight
Mrs. David Stewart.
Mrs. Harry Hisey
Mrs. Joseph E. Brown
Mrs. Frank Joyce
Mrs. F. L. Busenburg
Mrs. George Stamp
Mrs. M. E. Isenbarger
Mrs. Charles Dillabaugh

Superintendent, Church School

Joseph E. Brown

President, Ladies Aid Society

Mrs. David Stewart

President, Woman's Foreign Missionary Society

Mrs. F .L. Busenburg

President, Young Women's Home Missionary Society.

Mrs. Maude Cottingham
Sponsor, Mrs. Joseph E. Brown.

President, Epworth League

Kenneth Knight.

Superintendent, Jr. Epworth League

Miss Lela Lottes

Scoutmaster, Boy Scouts

Edwin F. Knight.

Pastor

Rev. Merrill B. McFall

Financial Secretary

Miss Ruth Lottes

The foregoing group of officials also compose the Official Board of the church of which the following are the officers:

Chairman, ex-officio—Rev. Merrill B. McFall
Recording Secretary—Arthur G. Taylor
Financial Secretary—Miss Ruth Lottes.
Treasurer—Lowell C. Held.

The Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church provides for the appointment of special committees to function as advisers to the pastor and to assist him in supervising the work in certain departments of the church. The personnel of these committees are:

Membership and Lay Evangelism—Mrs. Joseph E. Brown, Mrs. Barton Dickinson, and Miss Faith Lottes.

Music—Mrs. Alfred A. Winslow, Mrs. W. Vincent Youkey, Harry Hisey, Elmer Bullock, and Mrs. George Compton.

Religious Education—F. L. Busenburg, Mrs. Joseph E. Brown, Mrs. Mary Teagle, Mrs. Joyce Taylor, and Mrs. Harold Clevenger.

World Service Benevolence—Mrs. A. P. Hubbell, Mrs. Juanita Belanger, Miss Josephine Meeker, Mrs. Arthur Frame, Miss Lela Lottes.

Foreign Missions—Mrs. F. L. Busenburg, Mrs. Joyce Taylor, Mrs. Venita Anderson, and Miss Lela Lottes.

Social Service and Local Hospitals—Mrs. Edwin F. Knight, Mrs. John W. Iddings, Mrs. E. K. Sowash, Mrs. Arthur Frame.

M. E. Hospital Board—Joseph E. Brown, Rev. Merrill B. McFall.

Friendship House Board—Mrs. Joseph E. Brown, Mrs. Merrill B. McFall, Rev. Merrill B. McFall.

Auditing Accounts—Clayton Root, Jr., Russell Westphal, and Earl Conner.

Church Records—Clayton Root, Jr., Russell Westphal, and Earl Conner.

Parsonage—Mrs. John W. Iddings, Mrs. David Stewart, Mrs. Daniel Gray, Mrs. George Hershman and Mrs. Arthur Letsinger.

Pulpit Supply—Joseph E. Brown, Cecil Erwin, David Stewart, George Compton, and Edwin F. Knight.

Pastoral Relation—Joseph E. Brown, Cecil Erwin, David Stewart, George Compton, and Edwin F. Knight.

Nominating Committee—Arthur B. Frame, Miss Josephine Meeker, Mrs. Julia Kobelin, Miss Dean Weiss, Edwin F. Knight, and Mrs. Lowell C. Held.

House Committee—David Stewart, Miss Dean Weiss, and Mrs. David Stewart.

Temperance and Public Morals—A. M. Wheeler, Mrs. Fred Rushton, Mrs. Philip Fields, and Kenneth Knight.

"LEST WE FORGET"

In the preceding pages the writer has attempted to make a record of what we may call the History of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Crown Point, Indiana. The task is a pleasant one, that of tracing the gradual development of a church from that of a backwood's settlement, such as our community once was, to the modern church serving a small suburban city, adjacent to the industrial territory of the Calumet Region. One-hundred years, to us, may seem, to be a long period of time. In the annals of mankind they are but as yesterday.

As we delve through old records and interview surviving members of the early church, we find that certain church members were very active in promoting its welfare and came to be recognized as leaders in the church work. Some of these it has been our pleasure to know personally. Perhaps it might be well to include in this article a list of deceased leaders in the Crown Point M. E. Church and its two country appointments, bearing in mind that this list does not contain all of the names of those who deserve especial mention.

Rev. Major Allman
Rev. Robert Hyde
Rev. R .B. Young
C. E. Allman
Timothy Cleveland
Silas Hathaway
Jacob Mendenhall
John Reed
E. Wayne Bryant
John Kitchel
W. C. Crowell
Salathiel Chapman
Reuben Fancher
Thomas Goodman
Jacob Houk
W. N. Hartupee
Albert Kilborne
George Krinbill
Andrew Krinbill
Conrad Rose
Sylvanus Vanwinkle
John Jones
James Sanders
Orson Bacon
James Phillips
Rev. Edwin A. Schell

Mrs. Lydia Witherell
Mrs. Elizabeth Crowell
Anthony Diddie
J. W. Griggs
Fred Fessenden
W. T. Horine
Jonathan Brooks
John Martin
Lorenzo Brooks
Ben Williams, Sr.
Dr. Vandewalker
Joseph Patton
Mrs. Susan G. Wood
Mrs. Reuben Fancher
Father Kinney [John Keeney?]
G. B. Handley
Miss Mary Jane Frey
Hiram Barton

Tunis Farmer
John Abrams
Mrs. McWilliams
Thomas A. Muzzall
Miss Lena Krimbill
Thomas J. Wood *
Mrs. J. C. Gibbs [Mattie]
Mrs. Alice Houk Ewer
Frank J. Houk
Mrs. John P. Merrill
Eugene Crowell
Mrs. Carrie L. Ingersoll
Alfred A. Winslow **
Samuel A. Love, Jr.
Mrs. David A. Root
Mrs. Julia Vilmer
Mrs. A. L. Courtright [Sylvia]
Mrs. Samuel A. Love, Jr.

* Mr. Wood served as a member of Congress from this district.

** Mr. Winslow served his country as U S. Consul at Liege, Belgium, Auckland, N. Z., Cape Town, South Africa, and Valparaiso, Chile. After his return here he was active as an official member.

LOCAL PREACHERS IN OUR CHURCH HISTORY

Mention has already been made of Major Allman and R. B. Young, members of the congregation who became local preachers and rendered valued assistance to the pastor both in the congregation and the pulpit. We are indebted to Mrs. Wood's record for the names of a number of others who entered the ministry. Among these was Levi Tarr, who as a member of a class on the circuit, was licensed to preach in 1855. His brother Charles was also licensed to preach. Both became successful ministers of the gospel, one in Michigan and the other in California. Reuben Sanders, son of Esquire Sanders of Winfield Township, a member of the Deer Creek Church on this circuit, was given a license to preach and later became an efficient member of the Northwest Indiana Conference.

Edwin A. Schell, who came to Crown Point as a small boy, was converted at the age of fourteen and licensed to preach when twenty-one. He served many of the large pulpits of Methodism, became General Secretary of the Epworth League for the whole Methodist Episcopal Church, and, at one time, was seriously considered in line for a bishopric. In looking over the old church records, the writer found the minutes of a quarterly conference of the Crown Point church, which is of more than the usual interest. Edwin A. Schell, then a lay member of the church, was the secretary; the chairman, who also signed the record, was Rev. J. M. Pavey, presiding elder, the grandfather of Mrs. John Ward Wheeler of our congregation.

O. J. Andrews, a public school teacher of Crown Point, was licensed to preach in 1877. William Babbitt, father of one of our former members, was licensed to preach in 1883 at Crown Point. We also find the name of Henry Argood as licensed to preach in 1879.

In later years the writer of this article recalls the effective preaching of the Hon. Thomas J. Wood, one of the leading members of the Crown Point bar and a former congressman from this district. We do not recall whether he held a local preacher's license, but we do recall his earnest pleading of the cause of his Master both in the pulpit and in the Thursday night prayer meeting. Mr. Wood had been brought to accept Christ as his Saviour through the death of his children, one son alone surviving. Mr. Wood often made the statement that he would rather let his taxes go unpaid than his obligations to the church. Those who were in a position to know said that his sincerity in making this statement could not be questioned.

At various times during the past ten years, another member of the congregation, Arthur B. Frame, whose boyhood home was in DeMotte, has been licensed to preach and has taken an active part in church and Sunday school work.

In 1929, Charles Naftzger, son of the Rev. Earle Naftzger, the pastor, was licensed to preach by the Crown Point quarterly conference.

At the meeting of the quarterly conference in May, 1937, Ralph M. Jones, one of our high school teachers, was licensed to preach. He now has charge of the M. E. Church at Coatesville, Indiana, and gives promise of becoming a very successful pastor.

ROSTER OF PASTORS

1838—Isaac Stagg, supply
1839—[---- ,]Green
1840—[---- ?]Wheeler.
1840-41—Wade Posey.
1841—Wm. J. Forbes.
1842—D. Crumpacker.
1843—Jeremiah Early, Supply
1844—Jeremiah Early
1845—Samuel Lamb
1847—Abram Salisbury
1848—Herman B. Ball
1849—D. F. Stright
1850—Abraham Carey
1851—Levi Moore
1852—Conrad S. Burgner and David Dunham.
1853—Supply
1854—David Crawford
1855—Francis Cox
1856—Charles B. Heath
1857—Houghton W. Brown
1858-1859—James W. Greene
1860—Benjamin Winans
1861—James Harvey Claypool
1862—Henry C. Fraley
1863—John E. Newhouse
1864—Bardin H. Bradbury
1865—Samuel P. Colvin
1866-1868—Thomas C. Stringer
1869-1871—M. M. Stolz
1872—Russell D. Utter
1873—Franklin Taylor
1874-1875—Thomas E. Webb
1876—William G. Vessels
1877-1879—Oliver C. Haskell
1880—James A. Clearwaters
1881—J. T. Stafford
1882-1883—Francis Cox
1884-1886—George R. Streeter
1887-1888—H. A. Merrill
1889-1890—Demetrius Tillotson
1891-1892—Allan P. Delong
1893-1895—William A. Mathews
1896—Isaac Dale
1897-1899—Russell D. Utter.
1900-1902—Tiffin F. Drake
1903-1905—J. M. Brown
1906-1910—H. H. Dunlavy
1911-1916—Charles U. Stockbarger
Fremont E. Fribley, supply
1917-1921—John A. Ayling
1922—John A. Ayling and Paul C. Curnick.
1923—Paul C. Curnick
1924-1926—George B. Jones
1927—H. M. Appleby and Earle Naftzger
1929—Earle Naftzger
1929-1934—Edward W. Strecker
1935-1938—Merrill B. McFall

CENTENNIAL PROGRAM

1938

SUNDAY, MAY 1, 1938

FOUNDER'S DAY

Mrs. Julia Kobelin, Chairman

10:00 A. M.—Morning Worship.
Sermon—"Let the Church Be The Church", Dr. W. E. J. Gratz, Editor of the Epworth Herald.

11:00 A. M.—Bible School following Morning Worship.
Joseph E. Brown, Superintendent

6:30 P. M.—Epworth League at usual hour.

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 1938

"MOTHER'S DAY"

With former pastors invited back

10:00 A. M.—Morning Worship.
Sermon—"Motherhood", Dr. Demetrius Tillotson former pastor.

11:00 A. M.—Bible School following Morning Worship.
Old-Fashioned Basket Dinner at noon, served in new basement.

6:30 P. M.—Epworth League.
Arthur G. Taylor, Speaker.

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 1938

"RECOGNITION DAY"

10:00 A. M.—Morning Worship.
Sermon—"Those Who Endure" by the pastor.
Subject—"To Whom Are You Related."

11:00 A. M.—Bible School following Morning Worship.

6:30 P. M.—Epworth League. Mrs. Katherine Roberts, speaker.

SUNDAY, MAY 22, 1938

"INSPIRATION DAY"

10:00 A. M.—Morning Worship.
Sermon—"Loyalty", by the pastor.

11:00 A. M.—Bible School following Morning Worship.

6:30 P. M.—Epworth League.

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 1938

"QUARTERLY CONFERENCE SUNDAY"

10:00 A. M.—Morning Worship.
Dr. Elmer Jones, District Supt., speaker. Subject: "The Future Beckons."

11:00 A. M.—Bible School following Morning Worship.
Old-Fashioned Basket Dinner at noon.

2:00 P. M.—Fourth Quarterly Conference in afternoon.

6:30 P. M.—Epworth League.

TWO-DAY ALDERSGATE PROGRAM

MAY 17 — MAY 18

TUESDAY, MAY 17, 1938

South Bend District Conference during morning and until 3 P. M.

3:00 P. M.-3:30 P. M.—Recess between District Conference and the start of the Aldersgate Conference.

3:30 P. M.—Forum conducted by Dr. C. D. W. Hildebrand, Professor of Philosophy, DePauw University.

Theme—"We Look Backward To Find the Permanent Values in Aldersgate."

Thirty minutes opening lecture. Discussion following.

5:00 P. M.—Assignment of overnight Host-homes.

6:00 P. M.—Dinner served by ladies of church Price 50c.

7:30 P. M.—Hymns of Church, Song Service and Special Music.

8:00 P. M.—Evening Message: "Highlights of Aldersgate". Dr. William Warren Sweet, Professor of Church History, Chicago University. Dr. Sweet has just returned from Europe and has spent some time in England.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1938

Breakfast served in homes

9:00 A. M.—Morning devotions, Dr. William E. Clark, City M. E. Church, Gary.

9:30 A. M.—Hymns of the Church, Song Ser-Service.

10:00 A. M.—Morning Message: "Our Church Faces This Day of Change." Dr. William Schermerhorn, Professor of Church History and Missions, Garrett Biblical Institute.

11:00 A. M.—Forum conducted by Dr. C. D. W. Hildebrand.
Theme—"Applying Aldersgate To Our Day". Thirty minutes opening lecture. Discussion.

12:15 P. M. Luncheon served by ladies of church. Price 40c.

2:00 P. M.—Hymns of Church--Song Service.

2:30 P. M.—Afternoon Message: "The Church of My Dreams for Tomorrow", Dr. George E. Francis, Pastor of Grace Church, South Bend, Ind.

3:30 P. M.—Forum conducted by Dr. C. D. W. Hildebrand. Theme: "We Look Ahead That We Might Be Ready"

6:00 P. M.—Dinner served by ladies of the church. Price 50c.

7:30 P. M.—Evening Musical Service. Methodist Episcopal Choir, Lansing, Ill.

8:00 P. M.—Evening Message: "The Previous Question." Dr. John Benson, Superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Hospital at Indianapolis, Indiana.

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